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MATILDA'S CUP QUEST

TILLIES OUT FOR CUP GLORY

by **BRUCE CAMPBELL**
Australia's **NUMBER**
ONE soccer writer

THE Matildas, Australia's senior women's soccer team, are under the spotlight in the FIFA World Cup.

After a disappointing Algarve Cup and a mixed pre-tournament series coach Greg Brown clearly has his work in front of him.

The Aussies are in Group D with China the raging favourites to win the group. Australia's chances of qualification lie in their tussle with Sweden.

Should they do well then it is likely that key player Julie Murray will have been a standout.

The Aussie playmaker is in brilliant form and recognised as one of the likely stars of the Cup.



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Blanco has to go, says Arok

By Ted Simmons

FORMER Socceroo and Olyroo coach Frank Arok has called for Englishman Roy Hodgson to be appointed coach to all of Australia's national teams - even if it means axing current Olympic team boss Raul Blanco.

Arok, speaking on SBS-TV, said that the Socceroo coach should be the person to set the uniform standard, style and system of all Australian national teams.

"Our next 20-man World Cup squad will probably be made up of half from the current senior team and half from the current Olyroos and the one man should be in charge of both campaigns," Arok said.

"We need to get a medal of some colour at the Olympics and also qualify for the 2002 World Cup.

"For that we need a man of international experience."

Arok coached the Socceroos and the



Frank Arok

Olyroos during the 1980s and steered Australia into the quarter finals of the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

He said he didn't think Blanco had the necessary experience to handle the national position.

"You have to have shown that you already have been some kind of a winner.

"I can't remember Blanco doing anything exceptional with his teams in the last 10 years," he said.

"In the interests of the 2002 World Cup effort, a way should be found for Blanco to go and Hodgson to be appointed coach of both senior national teams."

Hodgson, the former Inter Milan, Blackburn and Switzerland coach, had earlier stated that he was unlikely to take up the offer of coaching the Socceroos unless he was allowed to steer the Olympic team for Sydney 2000 as well.

Viduka escapes with warning over spitting incident

By Louise Robson

SOCCEROO striker Mark Viduka has escaped with a warning by the Scottish Football Association over the spitting incident that has already cost the player two weeks wages and a one match ban.

Viduka faced a possible ten-week ban from the SFA who has punished similar player misconduct in the past, but the Association's disciplinary committee decided he had been punished enough.

The former Croatia Zagreb forward was reported by the referee for spitting at Dunfermline midfielder Marc Millar during Celtic's 2-1 win in May.

He was sent off and incurred a one-week suspension as well as a hefty fine from Celtic.

A FA spokesman said the disciplinary committee for the new season had sat on Monday and considered the Viduka matter.

"The committee looked at the report submitted by referee Willie Young and

decided that because of the one-match suspension for spitting at the player and the disciplinary action taken by Celtic, the committee would take no further action," spokesman Andrew Niven said.

"The committee did warn the player that if there was a repeat of such behaviour in the future no such tolerant view would be taken. Basically the matter is closed."

Viduka was forced to apologise on the field by head coach Jozef Venglos and after meeting with club officials he issued a full public apology.

Celtic also handed out the maximum club fine and docked the trouble-prone star two week's wages.

Viduka signed for Celtic from Croatia Zagreb in a Stg3 million (\$A7.30 million) deal in December but returned to Melbourne almost immediately citing personal problems.

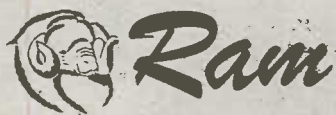
He returned to Glasgow in March and his 11 appearances this season have been marked by a string of goals.



He played in Australia's 3-2 win over the FIFA All-Stars in Sydney last Saturday at the official opening of the Olympic stadium.

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Parramatta powers towards entry to next season's NSL

By Adrian Warren

NATIONAL soccer league aspirant Parramatta Power has provided 3.5 million reasons why it should be admitted into next season's Ericsson Cup and confirmed its signing of Coach of the Year David Mitchell (pictured).

The Western Sydney-based club submitted its proposal to join the league at a Soccer Australia board meeting at the weekend.

The fledgling franchise has been guaranteed \$3.5 million over its first five years from the wealthy Parramatta Leagues club which will hold 85 per cent equity in the Power with the Parramatta Eagles New South Wales Super League club holding 10 per cent and former federal minister Gary Punch five per cent.

Soccer Australia has already announced the Auckland-based Football Kings will enter the 1999-2000 competition.

The Power will have no early financial concerns with Parramatta Leagues prepared to pour \$1 million into the club in



its first two seasons and \$500,000 in each of the following three years.

"To be quite honest, there's no barrier with that. I'm confident this is going to be successful and if it does need additional finance in that initial stage we will be there," Parramatta Leagues club president and

Power chairman Alan Overton said.

Punch said the Power would have a annual budget of \$3 million and had already signed up sports clothing and footwear manufacturer ASICS as its major sponsor for two years.

He predicted crowds of around 15,000 at the

Power's home venue Parramatta Stadium and expected the club to be in the black in its first year and confirmed the possibility of double-headers including the Parramatta Eels rugby league club.

Mitchell, who guided Sydney United to the 1998-99 minor premiership and grand final, said he had already approached several players, all of whom were enthusiastic about joining the Power.

"Hopefully within a month we could have the squad settled and then the month after we would start training," said Mitchell, who is looking at a 20-man squad.

Mitchell revealed he had targeted both local and overseas players including some of his former Sydney United charges.

Along with his Sydney United assistant Laurie McKinna, Mitchell has signed up with the Power for three years with his contract allowing for the possibility of him coaching the Socceroos.

"If I am involved in the national team setup, Laurie is a capable coach

in his own right and whenever I'm away on international duty then Laurie could take my place," Mitchell said.

"That has been put into the contract, Parramatta Power don't have a problem with that."

Neither Mitchell nor club officials were keen to dwell on speculation the Power's admission to the League could be delayed for 12 months.

"We're very confident about going into it (in 1999-2000) because we'd like to think we couldn't have done anything more and that we compare more than favourably with existing clubs and could bring a whole new dimension and exposure to Soccer in Australia," Parramatta Leagues general manager and Power director Denis Fitzgerald said.

Mitchell said he would be 'very devastated' if Parramatta was denied entry to next season's competition.

"I don't want to contemplate that, I'll have to wait and see. I might be sticking my neck out but the setup here has really blown me away," Mitchell said.

Blatter supports Confed Cup in Korea, Japan

FIFA President Sepp Blatter recommended that South Korea and Japan co-host the 2001 Confederations Cup to prepare for the following year's World Cup soccer finals in the two countries.

"There is now an idea, which I will bring to you, to use the Confederations Cup in the year 2001 ... as a rehearsal in Korea and Japan," Blatter told foreign reporters in Seoul last week. He said the idea was aimed at helping "improve or prove the organisational skill of both associations and to see if the exchange of teams will work or not".

"The arguments are more than valid," he said.

South Korea and Japan will co-host the 2002 World Cup soccer tournament, the first World Cup to be staged in Asia and the first to be co-hosted. Blatter said a proposal for sharing the Confederations Cup had yet to be formally submitted by the two countries and then had to

be approved by the FIFA executive committee.

This year, Mexico will host the biennial tournament from July, with six teams representing each continent participating along with host Mexico and defending champions Brazil.

At the news conference, South Korea Football Association President Chung Mong-joon said he still hoped North Korea could stage two of the 32 World Cup matches given to South Korea.

"We anticipate North Korea's participation in the 2002 World Cup. Pyongyang has the largest stadium in the world that can house up to 220,000 spectators," Chung said.

Blatter said there was no deadline set for North Korea to respond to South Korea's proposal but said he expected to meet North Korean sports officials in July in Los Angeles.

"I have not yet received an official confirmation of an invitation which was extended to me



South Korean FA President Chung Mong-joon and FIFA boss Sepp Blatter

last fall by an IOC member of North Korea," Blatter said.

"But we will have an extraordinary congress in Los Angeles on the 9th of July where I am sure the North Korean football delegation will be present because North

Korea is playing in the World Women's Championship," he said.

Chung Mong-joon said earlier he and Blatter would be visiting North Korea around September to discuss the idea of North Korea hosting some of the 2002 games.

Chung denied rumours that South Korea wanted to host both semi-finals of the 2002 World Cup and said it does not plan to suggest changes in the original FIFA plan under which the two hosts would share the semi-finals. He said the latest

flare-up of tensions on the Korean peninsula should not be an argument against staging matches in North Korea.

"Because South-North Korean relations are exposed to instability and dangers, and exactly

because of that, I think we have to share the games," Chung said.

"Easing tensions is a purpose and I think we should step up efforts."

South Korea sank a North Korean torpedo boat during a firefight on their border on Tuesday.

Chinese ticket buyers go mad for Manchester United

CHINESE football fans have snapped up all 80,000 tickets for a July 21 exhibition match between England's treble winning Manchester United and Shanghai Shenhua, the Shanghai Star reported.

It will be played after United's tour of Australia where the Reds will play the Socceroos in Melbourne on July 15 and in Sydney three days later.

"It is unprecedented that the tickets should sell out for a match five weeks in advance," Yu Zhifei, chairman of the host club, was quoted as saying.

Fans here are desperate for a chance to watch one of the world's top clubs, which is coming off an unprecedented sweep of the European Cup as well as England's coveted "double" - FA Cup and premier league title - in one season.

United is not due to issue the final list of players to make the trip here until July 9

but the report said big names including David Beckham, Teddy Sheringham, Andy Cole and Ryan Giggs are expected to take the field.

The match will be broadcast live on the nationwide Central Chinese Television channel.

Chinese stars Fan Zhiyi and Sun Jihai played for the English first-division club Crystal Palace in the 1998-99 season, and United's vice chairman Peter Kenyon indicated during a brief stop in Shanghai this week that his club was also keeping its eyes open for prospects.

"We hope more Chinese players go to play in England, and we are ready to co-operate with China in more fields," the official Xinhua news agency quoted him as saying.

And former United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel will sign a two-year deal with Portuguese team Sporting Lisbon.

Schmeichel ended an eight-year stint with United after helping them win the



European Cup Final against Bayern Munich in Barcelona to complete a Treble of European Cup, English Premier League and FA Cup.

Schmeichel's place in the United team was taken by Aussie mega star Mark Bosnich (pictured above in Sydney earlier this month) who left Aston Villa under freedom of contract.



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Football Kings head for court over name

THE Football Kings are headed to court as the wrangle between the Auckland-based soccer club and the Sydney Kings basketball franchise continues.

Football Kings chairman Chris Turner and club director/lawyer Ted Midlane met Sydney Kings chairman Michael Wrublewski in Australia last Friday in effort to work through the stand-off.

"Our attitude was one of wanting to go through the issues and go over what we saw as the positives in both

clubs using the Kings' name," said Turner.

"But their attitude was one of 'you change your name or we go to court'."

Turner said he asked Wrublewski for examples of where names had been changed in such circumstances but he refused to answer or even discuss the issue.

Soccer Australia and New Zealand Soccer do not want to be involved, saying it is a matter between the two clubs.

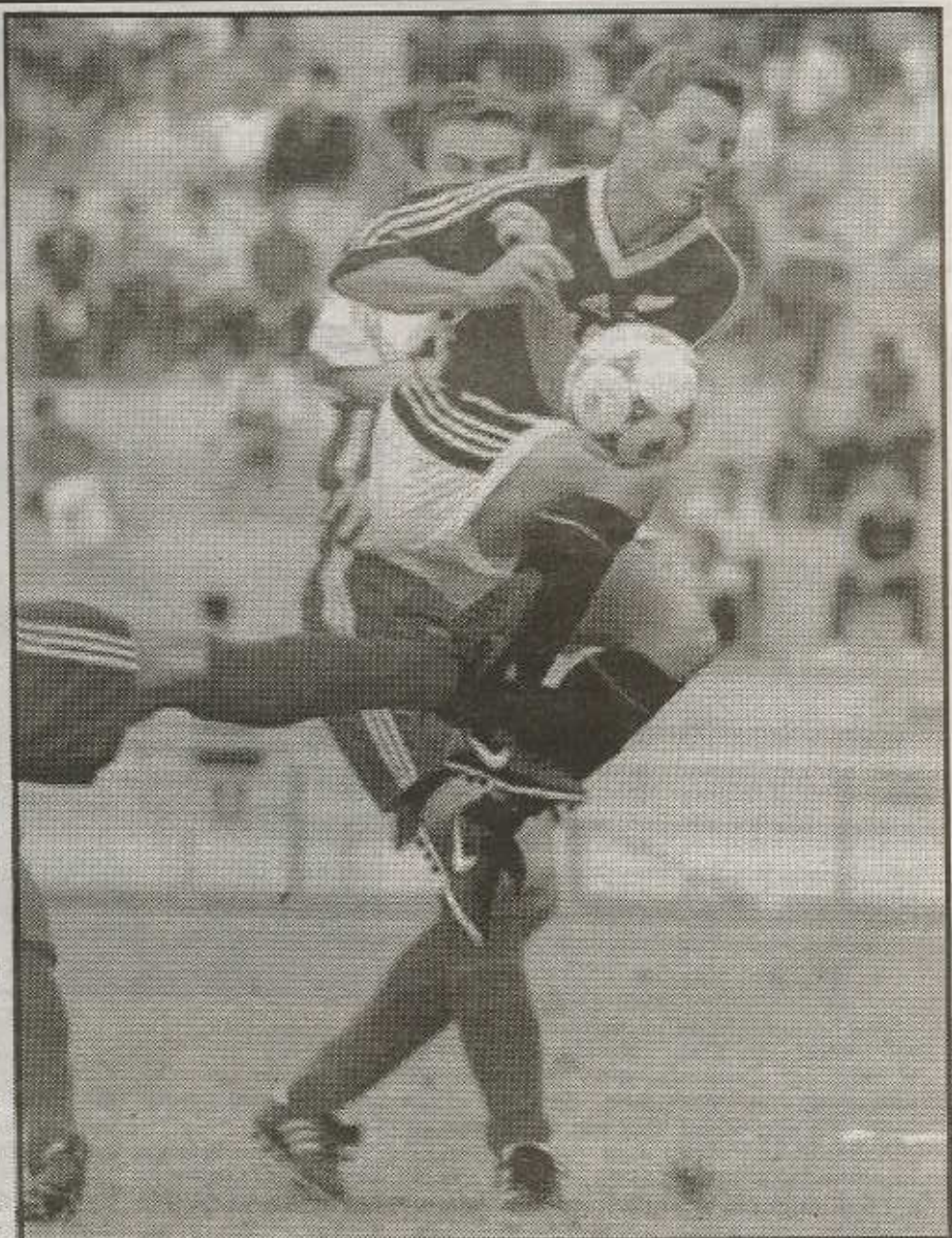
Turner said both national associations and Oceania

Confederation president Charlie Dempsey have given their support to the Football Kings and have forwarded all necessary documents to FIFA for their consideration and approval at their meeting in early July.

Turner said he pointed to double-up of names within sport in Australia with Ericsson Cup soccer side Adelaide Sharks and NRL club Cronulla Sharks; Melbourne Knights (soccer) and Newcastle Knights (league) and Richmond Tigers (Aussie Rules) and Balmain Tigers (league) as examples of common names.

"Brendon Swabb, the Ericsson Cup player's association chief executive who is also a director of the Richmond Tigers, could not believe the attitude of the Sydney Kings," said Turner.

"I have no idea when it is likely to go to court but as far as we are concerned it is not an issue."



Mark Atkinson in action for New Zealand against Poland last week: the former Carlton player is tipped to link up with the Kings in next season's NSL.

Soccer boss Blatter gets seat on IOC

SWITZERLAND, spurned in the contest to host the 2006 Winter Games, got its fourth IOC member on Sunday when the committee elected world soccer boss Sepp Blatter.

Blatter, who will be an "ex-officio" IOC member as president of FIFA, joins hockey boss Rene Fasel, rowing chief Denis Oswald and Marc Hodler, the veteran skiing administrator who blew the whistle on Olympic corruption last December. Ten members were expelled or forced to resign for their role in the vote-buying scam by the team leading Salt Lake City's successful bid to host the 2002 Winter

Krncevic set for move to Europe

By Chris Lines

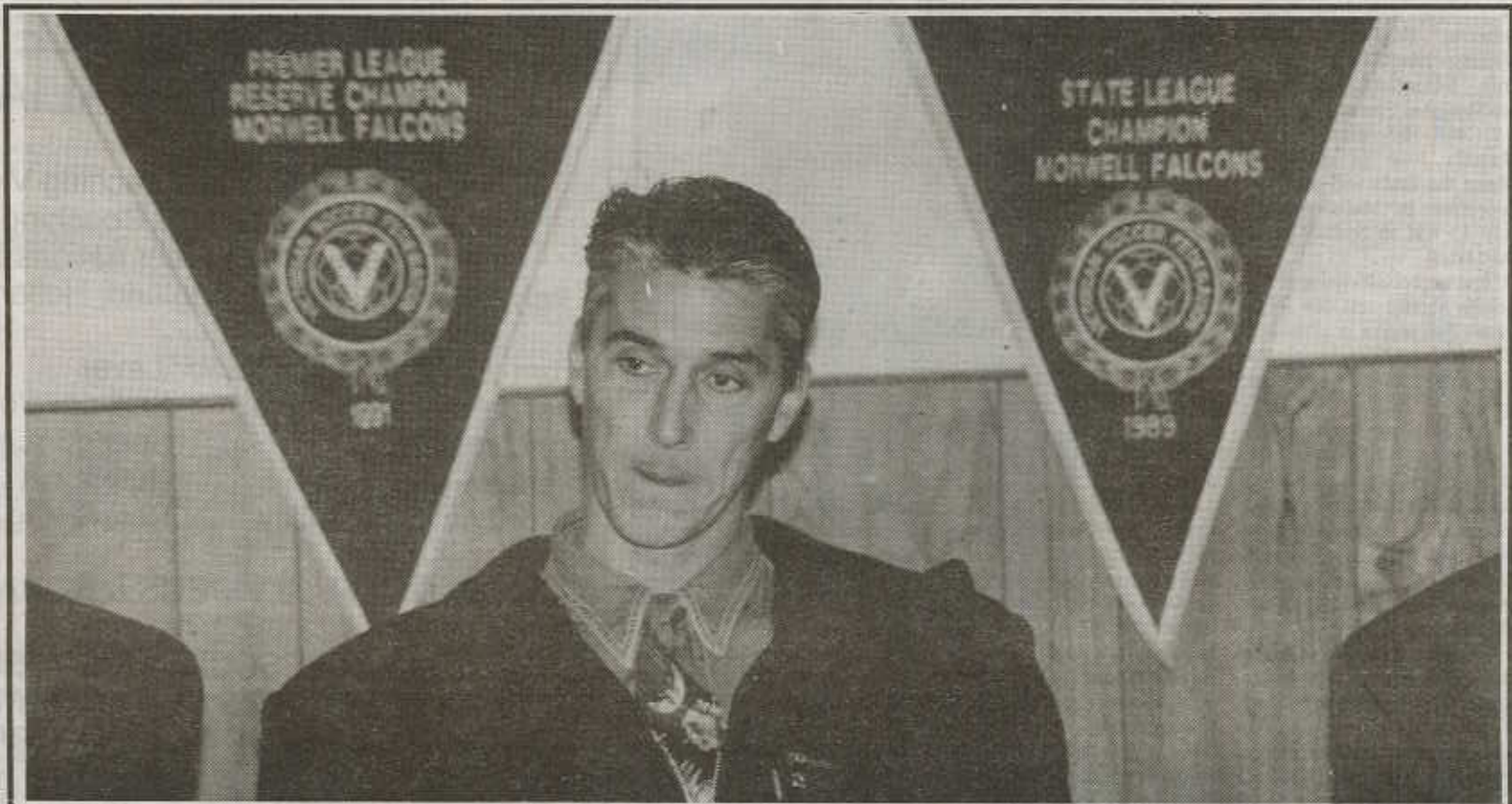
A COACHING position in France or Belgium is likely to be the next step in the career of deposed Carlton coach Eddie Krncevic.

Krncevic had been in talks about coaching in the two countries, where he made his name as one of Australia's pioneering soccer exports to the rich fields of Europe.

"I've made contact with a few people from overseas and the feedback has been quite interesting but I'm still just waiting to see - it could be a day, two days, a week or a month," Krncevic said.

"Europe is my preferred option. If you're serious about coaching then that is where you have to go," he said.

Krncevic won plaudits after guiding Carlton into the Ericsson Cup grand final in 1997-98 but parted company with the club after a string of losses last season which put the Blues out of



finals contention.

Krncevic said he was still waiting on news of the Socceroos coaching

appointment, with the growing likelihood of a local appointment given the difficulty of negot-

iations with Englishman Roy Hodgson.

Appointment of one of the leading club coaches

would create a vacancy Krncevic could fill, but he would only consider a good app-

ointment.

"I'm happy in Melbourne, my family are settled here but it

would have to be a good club for me to stay in Australia," he said.

High profile Englishman first choice as Falcons coach

by Chris Lines

THE coaching shortlist for struggling Gippsland Falcons, meanwhile, has been trimmed to three, including an English professional, but its survival in the competition remains in the balance.

Gippsland president Fred DiSipio is negotiating with a candidate currently at a leading English club who could serve as playing coach for two seasons.

"He is much more high profile than Stuart Munro and he's got at least two more years to play," DiSipio said.

"He's got a bit of experience as an assistant coach at a high profile club," he said.

The other candidates were both locals, believed to be a former Falcons player and a former South Melbourne player.

Gippsland was put in contact with the English candidate through former Glasgow Celtic captain Roy Aitken, who was approached as Falcons coach before the Munro appointment and now worked as a player and coaching agent.

"If we have the money, he would be our first choice," DiSipio said.

The financial constraints were pressing at the club, which owes \$1.3 million to creditors.

The club had negotiated with the creditors and was hoping they would accept 10 cents in the dollar to wipe out that debt.

DiSipio was owed \$400,000 but said he "will be happy to be good to the club".

"If we can reduce the \$1.3 million to \$400,000 or \$500,000, that means the club can turn around and work much harder," he said.

The Falcons were also working to entice 'executive members' to contribute funds to the club.

While working to clear its debts, the club also had to organise a \$100,000 bank guarantee as well as paying an upfront \$40,000 as a league membership fee and a further \$40,000 for player insurance.



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Manchester United will join with new Adelaide club: Emery

By Sam Lienert

AN alliance between Manchester United and proposed National Soccer League club Adelaide United would go ahead if the club was accepted into the Ericsson Cup, Adelaide United chairman Peter Emery said last week.

Emery said the details of the connection between the Adelaide club and the English soccer giant could not be revealed until Soccer Australia (SA) decided whether to grant his club an NSL licence, but there was a firm commitment from both parties.

"It is firm that we are to form an alliance, with the operational details to be settled in the early part of 2000, after we have a team operating in the NSL," Emery said.

The new team faces competition for an NSL licence from the Southern Stars, formerly known as the Adelaide Sharks, but Emery said SA would be better off with a team not restricted by the Greek heritage of the Sharks.

"We haven't seen their

proposal and they haven't seen ours but the main difference is our club is designed to attract support from the wider soccer community as against one that has a narrow background," he said.

But Southern Stars spokesman Zis Ginos said his club would not have the Sharks' crowd-pulling problems and would appeal to all South Australians.

Ginos said it would be a big gamble to choose an untried club over one that had existed for so long.

"We are an existing club, we have got supporters, we have got financial backing from members, we have got the grounds, we have got the teams," he said.

"We have got a new strategy for increasing crowds and a plan to increase the marketing and appeal of the club.

"Adelaide United don't have anything, they are going on the hope of being able to raise some funds and carry on."

Both clubs sent representatives to Sydney last Saturday to give final presentations to SA.



Leeds swoop to clinch Mills deal

ENGLISH Premiership club Leeds has clinched the signing of fullback Danny Mills after agreeing to Charlton's Stg4 million (\$A9.7 million) valuation.

Mills becomes manager David O'Leary's third signing since the Irishman took over at Elland Road last October, following the Stg4.4 million (\$A10.7 million) capture of midfielder David Batty and a Stg1.75 million (\$A4.3 million) swoop for Norwegian international Erik Bakke.

Mills' move will now go ahead subject to the England squad member passing a medical later this week.

Lisbon president denies contacting Hoddle

SPORTING Lisbon president Jose Roquette denied that he had approached former England soccer coach Glenn Hoddle to ask him to manage the Portuguese side.

"I have not spoken with anyone on this matter," Roquette told reporters after a meeting of club directors at the weekend.

Hoddle's manager Dennis Roche told BBC radio earlier that Roquette had approached Hoddle.

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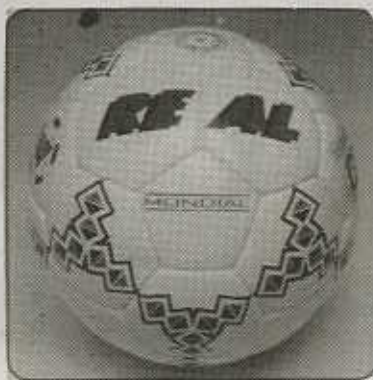
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Garcia on honeymoon with Olyroos

PERTH Glory's Michael Garcia will spend his honeymoon with his Under-23 teammates and not his wife, following his marriage in Perth last week.

Garcia was named as part of an 19-man squad which has flown out on a three week tour of Singapore and New Zealand, as the Olyroos continue preparatory work for the 2000 Olympics.

Missing from the squad which will take on the Singapore National Team and the New Zealand Under-23s are Mile Sterjovski with a hamstring tear, Marco Bresciano with a knee injury and Jason Culina, while Ivan Zelic is expected to re-join the squad in New Zealand.

"Ivan needed 12 stitches after receiving a gash on his knee in a practice game against Melita last week," said coach Raul Blanco.

"Unfortunately, the wound has become infected so we've sent him home to Canberra to recover, and during that time he will attend the AIS injury recovery programme to help him along.

"The possibilities of Ivan being right for the New Zealand leg are very good, but unfortunately the same cannot be said for Mile Sterjovski.

"Mile had a hamstring problem last week, and a scan revealed a very small tear, which will need a couple of weeks to recover, so I have omitted him from the touring party," added Blanco.

"Also not considered for this tour were Marco Bresciano, who needs more time to recover from his knee problem, and Jason Culina, who is over-tired following his very hectic season and subsequent off-season trials."

And before flying out for Singapore the Olyroos put one over their more senior counterparts, defeating the Soceroos 1-nil in a practice match at Marconi Stadium.

Kasey Wehrman was the double-back flip goal-scorer for the Under-23s.

The squad:

Con BLATISIS, Jacob BURNS, Nick CARLE, Simon COLOSIMO, Michael CURCJA, Joe DIDULICA, Brett



EMERTON, Buddy FARAH, Michael GARCIA, George GOUTZOULIS, Steve LAYBUTT, Danny MILOSEVIC, Dragi NASTEVSKI, Nick SABLJAK, Michael SANTALAB, Zeljko SUSLA, Kasey WEHRMAN, Clayton ZANE.

MATCH DETAILS:

20th June 1999:

Olyroos Vs Singapore Senior National Team

30th June 1999:

Olyroos Vs New Zealand Under-23s

3rd July 1999:

Olyroos Vs New Zealand Under-23s

Jesus to stand trial

A JUDGE has ordered the flamboyant mayor of Spain's jet-set resort Marbella and Atletico Madrid club president to face trial along with 11 others on charges of embezzlement and fraud.

The state prosecutor has asked for a sentence of 34 years should Jesus Gil y Gil be found guilty, leading daily newspaper El Pais said.

On Wednesday, the Marbella judge in charge of the investigation, Santiago Torres, ordered a trial be held after studying reports drawn up by the state prosecution office, El Pais said.

A date for the trial has yet to be set.

One of Spanish sport's most outspoken and controversial figures, Gil, 65, is accused of funneling 450 million pesetas (\$US3.2million (\$A4.90million)) in public money from Marbella city coffers to Atletico, which he runs. Gil has been mayor of Marbella since 1991.

The glitzy southern resort that became a jet-set hotspot during the 1980s has since become an official sponsor of Atletico, and the name Marbella is now emblazoned on the team's jerseys.

Gil initially was jailed in the case but released on bail in January.

He reportedly already had about 80 other court actions against him, many to do with construction projects.

His only previous jail time was in 1969.

Convicted of negligence after a roof of a restaurant complex he built outside Madrid collapsed on top of 300 diners killing 58 people, he spent 18 months in prison before receiving a pardon from former dictator Gen. Francisco Franco.

Carlton to sign Scot

CARLTON Carlton Soccer Club is set to sign a former Scottish international to bolster its defence for the next Ericsson Cup season. New coach Stuart Munro, a former Glasgow Rangers defender who coached the Gippsland Falcons last year, has been in touch with contacts in Scotland and is primed to sign the tall and much-capped defender.

Clubs protest financial demand for Ericsson Cup entry

By Chris Lines

SOCCER Australia faces a protest from clubs angry with an \$180,000 entry price to the Ericsson Cup competition next season.

SA is demanding each club organise a \$100,000 bank guarantee as well as \$40,000 for membership of the league by the end of August and then a further \$40,000 for insurance of players by September.

Club representatives met in Sydney last week and told the league they were opposed to the last two demands, but SA was standing firm.

"If a club can't afford to pay \$80,000 before the season, then they don't deserve to be there, it's as simple as that," league general manager Stefan Kamasz said.

The guarantee is designed to protect the league from liability should any of the clubs fail during the season.

While Kamasz acknowledged clubs were unhappy with the financial demands, it was unlikely the league would face a widespread revolt.

"It won't happen at all. Last year the clubs had to pay up front the \$40,000 and \$15,000 of the insurance money and they came good," he said.



NSL General Manager Stefan Kamasz. His board is getting tough on league members and has dramatically increased affiliation fees - prompting outburst from member clubs. Bu Kamasz is confident that it will not be an obstacle to the successful start of the new competition, due to begin in early October.

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Anelka poised for Lazio switch

English Premiership side Arsenal has agreed a British record Stg22 million (\$A53.53 million) deal with Italian Serie A outfit Lazio for its French international striker Nicolas Anelka, it was reported at the weekend.

The London club and Lazio officials were claimed to have held lengthy talks in London to thrash out an agreement.

Arsenal vice-chairman David Dein told The Mirror: "There was a full and frank exchange of views."

The 20-year-old French international has repeatedly complained that he wants to leave Arsenal and is unhappy at life in England.

He was previously linked to Real Madrid and Juventus.

Since arriving at Arsenal for a knockdown Stg500,000 (\$A1.2 million) from Paris St Germain two years ago Anelka has flourished on the field, collecting last year's PFA Young Player of the Year Award.

Lazio has money to spend after offloading Christian Vieri to Inter Milan for a world record transfer fee.

The paper claims a deal could be struck in the next 48 hours with late breaking stories suggesting that the transfer had been complete.

As *Inside Soccer* went to print no official confirmation had been received although there was a flurry of press on the story.



Man U tickets selling fast

TICKET sales for Manchester United's game against the Socceroos in Sydney are catching up with those of the same fixture in Melbourne.

There were 40,000 tickets sold for the game at the Olympic Stadium, with all premium seats sold out, and 45,000 sold for the game at the MCG where the cheaper seats were sold out but 40 per cent of the premium tickets were still available.

Irish FA fined \$32,000 over Yugoslavia tie

THE Football Association of Ireland (FAI) was fined 50,000 Swiss francs (\$A48,966) for not playing its European championship qualifier against Yugoslavia on June 5. UEFA's control and disciplinary committee also recommended that any costs incurred by the Yugoslav national team or by UEFA should be met by the FAI.

The match, scheduled for Dublin, was called off when the Irish government refused to grant visas to the Yugoslav team because of the Kosovo crisis. UEFA said the fine would be donated to a charitable organisation of its choice and the game should be played at a later date once logistical details had been clarified.

"We're happy with the decision," FAI president Pat Quigley said. "We shouldn't mix politics and sports. This is what the players on both teams wanted - to play the match."

FAI chief executive Bernard O'Byrne said: "The Association will have to suffer the financial burden but we are happy that the game will go on in Dublin."

"We will now be making early contact with the Yugoslav F.A. in the hope of agreeing a suitable date when the match can be played."

He said September 1 was the likely date, although he noted it would be a hectic week with Ireland due to play Croatia on September 4 and Malta four days later. The Irish government, recognising public unease about the game, refused to issue visas to the Yugoslav team for the group eight qualifier in Dublin, forcing its postponement.

The decision put the FAI on a collision course with UEFA which the government said had failed to accept its responsibilities in the face of the "terrible and unacceptable situation on the ground in Kosovo".

According to UEFA rules, it could have awarded three points to Yugoslavia in default or thrown Ireland out of the competition.

Debt ridden Falcons in talks with God

By Adrian Warren and Paul Millar

SOCCER Australia has decided to defer a decision on the composition of next season's national league until Saturday.

The SA board heard submissions from prospective clubs Parramatta Power and Adelaide United plus existing teams Gippsland Falcons and Adelaide Sharks at its meeting in Sydney on Saturday.

NSL general manager Stefan Kamasz said the board needed more time before making a decision and will meet at the same venue next Saturday.

SA chairman Basil Scarsella said the final composition of the league won't be known until the FIFA meeting on July 5 which would determine whether the Auckland-based Football Kings would be granted permission to play in the Australian league.

"The Board has made the decision on Auckland, they will be in the competition subject to a

full approval from FIFA," he said.

He gave no clues as to the number of teams for next season's competition but stressed SA would be making major changes the following season.

"We don't want to cause too much disruption to the league this year with the major re-launch of the league in 2000-2001," Scarsella said.

He said the Board had a quick discussion on the Soccerroo coaching position but reiterated that a decision would not be announced until the second half of the year.

And cash-shy Gippsland Falcons have made a desperate bid to cling to their place in the league.

The Falcons are \$1.2 million in debt and, along with the Adelaide Sharks, are prime candidates for culling as Soccer Australia attempts to make the Ericsson Cup more financially stable.

However Falcons president Fred Di Sipio believes the Gippsland club can mount a good

argument why it should stay in the competition.

He said four of the club's major backers were prepared to waive a substantial amount of monies owed to them.

The club owes the president \$400,000 and he's prepared to write off a large slice of it.

"The debt will deflate in no time starting with me ... we are all talking to God and thinking with our hearts and we will take it from there," Di Sipio said.

While Di Sipio and the club's backers will be praying for their best result of the season even hearts of solid gold will not be enough to convince SA that the Falcons are viable.

That's why Di Sipio took one of the club's bigger sponsors to last weekend's meeting and the administrator was also there to support the Falcons fight for survival.

"I feel that we are better than solvent and see no reason why we should not be re-admitted, I am confident," he said.

Di Sipio deflected the pressure on his club onto others that were struggling for survival.

"Brisbane, Newcastle and the Adelaide Sharks, then there's Sydney Olympic and Sydney United are in trouble and the Melbourne Knights are lucky that they got the transfer money for Mark Viduka," he said.

"What we are looking at doing is running this club on a more professional basis, we have to do that," he said.

The Sharks are tipped to be the club most likely to be axed as they have a creditors meeting this week where they will consider takeover bids.

Both the Sharks and the Falcons are in dire financial trouble and all that will keep them in the league is a fear that Soccer Australia would be dragged through the courts delaying the start of the season.

Power has made a strong bid to join the league and signed up former Sydney United coach David Mitchell pledging \$3.5 million in support over its first five

years from the wealthy Parramatta Leagues club.

Despite being ready to join the league immediately it's more likely that Power will be given approval in 12 months.

Adelaide United also intensified its lobbying to join the Ericsson Cup by announcing it would form an alliance with English soccer giant Manchester United.

In its entry application the club said it was a new organisation, not affiliated with any existing clubs or community.

The Manchester United union is unlikely to sway SA as it's heard the same story from other national league clubs.

The Sharks are the club most likely to be culled as their future is under a cloud and they have a creditors meeting next week where they will consider takeover bids.

The Falcons are also a prime candidate for the axe as they owe \$1.3 million to creditors.

SA chief executive David Woolley said there would be recommended

changes to the composition of the league and played down fears that FIFA would block the entry of the Kings into the Ericsson Cup.

Soccer Australia and New Zealand have both supported the admission of the Kings and have put a strong argument to FIFA secretary general Michel Zen-Ruffinen.

"We have explained that New Zealand does not have a national league with professional players and the inclusion of the Kings would help the game develop in Oceania," Woolley said.

"It's all about the development of football in the region, Soccer Australia and New Zealand remain confident that FIFA will approve their inclusion in the league," he said.

FIFA has, in the past, rejected applications for clubs to play outside their country with plans to relocate English side Wimbledon to Dublin rejected.

FIFA however realises that including a New Zealand side in the Australian league could

open the way for a series of legal challenges from clubs wishing to play outside their country.

Winning the minor premiership will ensure Sydney United survives for another season but with a mass exodus of players expected, and the coach already leaving, it appears to be on borrowed time.

The Melbourne Knights look to be debt-free thanks to their share of Mark Viduka's transfer fee from Croatia Zagreb to Celtic but unless they expand their dwindling support base they will be on the way out next season.

SA is considering going with a reduced competition this season but the success of Northern Spirit and Perth Glory has ensured that the list of new applicants is growing.

The clubs that struggled this season are likely to be the same culprits next year and there will be another revamp at the end of that season with only the most powerful cashed-up clubs surviving.

FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

US expected to lead World Cup



GROUP A

UNITED STATES:

The United States, World Cup champions in 1991 and 1996 Olympic gold medalists, won't be tested until the quarter-finals at the earliest.

The Americans, who finished third in 1995, boast a veteran team led by Mia Hamm, the world's all-time scoring leader with 108 international goals.

But Hamm is far from a one-woman show.

Tiffeny Milbrett is a lethal scorer and Kristine Lilly just might be the best all-around player in the game, making the U.S. squad favourites to win on home turf.

DENMARK:

Not quite good enough to play consistently with the top teams but capable of stealing a game, Denmark has participated in both Cups and the Olympics.

They are expected to be the Americans' most difficult first-round opponent, although Denmark has lost its last four meetings with the United States.

Their top players are defenders Lene Terp and Birgit Christensen, midfielders Anne Nielsen and Christina Petersen and forward Gitte Krogh.

NIGERIA:

The premier African team must take it up a notch or two to reach the next round.

The Golden Falcons, who outscored their rivals 26-0 in five qualifiers, have never won a game in the World Cup.

Forward Mercy Akide and midfielder Nkiru Okosieme, daughter of former international goalkeeper Cyril Okosieme, are the go-to players.

NORTH KOREA:

The surprise side of the Asian qualifying tournament, the physical North Koreans will draw media attention more for the political overtones of playing the United States than for the level of competition they are likely to provide.

GROUP B

GERMANY:

Of the four seeded teams, Germany is the least likely to win.

Doris Fitschen and Steffi Jones form a solid backline in front of goalkeeper Silke Rottenberg.

Bettina Wiegmann and Martina Voss are a lethal duo in the midfield.

They have paired two 21-year-olds up front in Birgit Prinz and Sandra Smisek.

BRAZIL:

After finishing ninth in the first two World Cups, Brazil took a quantum leap at the Olympics with a fourth-place finish.

They outscored their South American foes by a 66-3 margin during qualifying and beat the visiting U.S. side 1-0 last year.

Forward Pretinha (27 goals in 21 matches) and midfielder Sissi (25 goals in 19 games) are keys to the attack.

ITALY:

Not surprisingly, the Italian women play a very disciplined, defensive game, not unlike the men's side.

Midfielder Antonella Carta is considered their best player on a team that will need some luck and goals to advance.

MEXICO:

The first-time Cup qualifiers are coached by former Mexican World Cup captain

Leonardo Cuellar.

They have a U.S. flavor due to nine players with Mexican-American backgrounds.

Players to watch include midfielders Laurie Hill (a three-time All-American in college) and Andrea Rodebaugh and forward Maribel Dominguez.

GROUP C

NORWAY:

Defending champion Norway bring a team that is big, strong and knows how to win tight matches.

The Norwegians finished second in 1991, took home the trophy in '95 — surrendering only one goal — and earned the 1996 Olympic bronze medal.

Forward Marianne Pettersen (47 goals in 62 matches) is one of the world's premier players, while captain Linda Medalen, once a scoring threat as a forward, leads a physical defence.

Hege Riise is one of the top central midfielders around.

CANADA:

Canada has not blossomed at the international level, although it features world-class players in Charmaine Hooper (28 goals) and Silvana Burtini (14 qualifying goals).

JAPAN:

Both of Japan's previous World Cup endeavours were nothing to write home about as they compiled a lacklustre 1-5 record.

Japan again does not figure to play a big role except to add to the win columns of opponents.

RUSSIA:

The Russians are defensive-minded and physical, but the World Cup debutantes lack a world-class goal scorer.

GROUP D

CHINA:

The Olympic silver medalists boast the swiftest team in the tournament and are considered co-favourites with the United States after taking two of three meetings from the host nation earlier this year.

Players to watch are veteran midfielders Liu Ailing, Zhao Lihong and Sun Wen.

Goalkeeper Goa Hong, known for her acrobatic saves, is among the world's finest.

SWEDEN:

The Swedes have so far failed to live up to their promise and do not figure to make a breakthrough this time around.

They finished fourth in the first World Cup, went out in the quarter-finals in penalties to China as the host nation in 1995 and slipped to a sixth-place finish at the Olympics.

Malin Andersson and Kristin Bengtsson are the key attackers.

AUSTRALIA:

The Australians are expected to battle Sweden for the other Group D second-round berth with China a virtual lock to advance.

Australia is led by defender Anissa Tann-Darby and midfielders Julie Murray and Lisa Casagrande.

GHANA:

Not even expected to get this far, Ghana stunned everyone but themselves by reaching the African qualifying final before losing to Nigeria.

The World Cup newcomers must avoid being awed by the occasion and the tactical skills of opponents.



AUSTRALIA v THE WORLD

THE MATILDAS

#	Name	Pos	Age	D.O.B.	Club
1	KITCHING Belinda	GK	21	07/15/77	Canberra Eclipse
20	WHEELER Tracey	GK	31	09/21/67	SASI Pirates
19	ALAGICH Dianne	DEF	20	05/12/79	SASI Pirates
5	BARTLETT Traci	DEF	21	04/21/78	Canberra Eclipse
4	COOPER Sarah	DEF	29	10/08/69	Canberra Eclipse
3	STARR Bridgette	DEF	23	12/10/75	NSWIS Sapphires
12	SWAFFER Kristyn	DEF	23	12/13/75	SASI Pirates
6	TANN-DARBY Anissa	DEF	31	10/10/67	NSWIS Sapphires
2	TAYLOR Amy	DEF	20	06/11/79	Canberra Eclipse
11	BLACK Sharon	MID	28	04/04/71	SASI Pirates
7	CASAGRANDE Lisa	MID	21	05/29/78	Canberra Eclipse
18	FORMAN Alison	MID	30	03/17/69	NNSW Horizon
17	GOLEBIOWSKI Kelly	MID	17	07/26/81	NSWIS Sapphires
15	HEPPERLIN Peita-Claire	MID	17	12/24/81	Canberra Eclipse
10	IANNOTTA Angela	MID	28	03/22/71	Canberra Eclipse
14	PETERS Joanne	MID	20	03/11/79	NSWIS Sapphires
16	WILSON Amy	MID	19	06/09/80	Canberra Eclipse
13	FERGUSON Alicia	FWD	17	10/31/81	Q.A.S. Sting
9	MURRAY Julie	FWD	29	04/28/70	NSWIS Sapphires
8	SALISBURY Cheryl	FWD	25	03/08/74	NNSW Horizon

AUSTRALIA'S 1995 WORLD CUP

Australia 0	Denmark 5
Australia 2	China PR 4
Australia 1	USA 4

1999 SCHEDULE

June 20 (Boston)
v GHANA

June 23 (Washington)
v SWEDEN

June 26 (New York)
v CHINA



Matildas' sights set on success

AUSTRALIA became the 13th team to qualify for the Women's World Cup by winning the 1998 Oceania Women's Qualifying Tournament in October of 1998, defeating rival New Zealand in the championship game, 3-1.

The Matildas got goals from Julie Murray, Bridgette Starr and Lisa Casagrande in the final.

A tough and scrappy team, Australia finished last at the 1995 Women's World Cup, but bolstered by the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, have dedicated increased resources to their women's soccer program for its Women's World Cup run.

Australia features a competitive mixture of veterans and young players.

Anissa Tann-Darby, the Matildas most-capped player, anchors a defense that gets solid goalkeeping from Belinda Kitching and tough tackling from defenders Traci Bartlett, Sarah Cooper and

Bridgette Starr.

Julie Murray, the captain of the 1995 World Cup team in the midfield, has excelled in her move to forward, making way for the young legs of rising stars Joanne Peters and Lisa Casagrande.

Midfielder Sharon Black, who led Australia in scoring

during the Oceania tournament, adds experience to the midfield while forwards Sunni Hughes and Katrina Boyd are both active and opportunistic goal scorers.

Australia has its sights set on success in 1999, setting up a possible medal finish in Sydney.



Chinese and US teams open as World Cup favourites

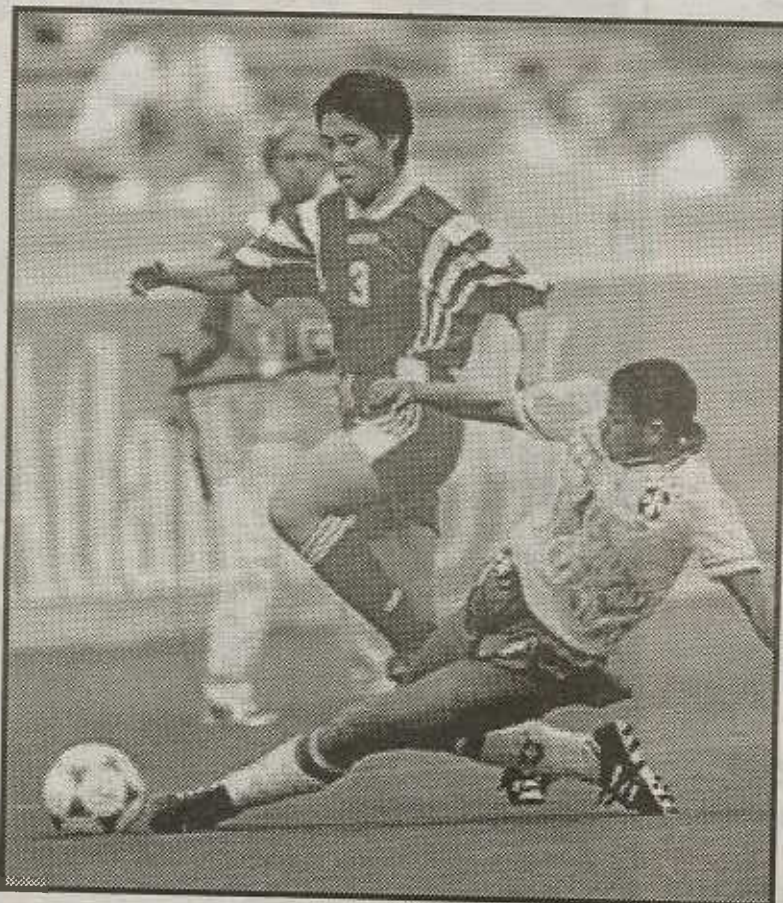
Women's World Cup soccer favourites, China and the United States began a journey on Saturday that could lead to a championship showdown next month between the political rivals.

The reigning Olympic champion US team features Mia Hamm, whose 108 international goals make her the sport's all-time scoring leader for men or women, and a huge promotional push to arouse support and sell tickets.

More than 74,000 were been sold for the US-Denmark tournament opener Saturday in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

A total of 450,000 tickets have been sold for matches in seven US cities, including the July 10 final.

But the Chinese, featuring goalkeeper Gao Hong, have beaten the US



team twice this year.

They downed the Americans

in Portugal's Algarve Cup final and snapped a 50-game

US unbeaten streak on home soil.

China brings back eight players from the team that lost to the US squad in the 1996 Olympic final.

They would face 13 of 16 US Olympians if both teams reach the championship game at the Rose Bowl.

In their path are 14 rivals hoping to upset the favourites and bring glory to themselves on the world stage.

China is the top seed in first round Group D, which also features Ghana, Sweden and Australia, which finished last at the 1995 World Cup.

Group C features reigning champion Norway, Canada, Russia and Japan.

Injuries have slowed the Norwegians, the Atlanta Olympic

bronze medallists.

"We know we can beat the

US," Norway coach Per-Mathias Hogmo said.

"But I don't want to talk about that because we have a long road to get there."

Japan has improved since a 7-0 loss to the US team May 2 in which Japanese goalkeeper Nozomi Yamago suffered an injured right shoulder.

The US team is in Group A with Denmark, Nigeria and North Korea, which plays the US team June 27 in a matchup between political foes with overtones similar to the US-Iran men's match at last year's World Cup.

"It's a means of bridging a gap in a very small way," Women's World Cup president Marla Messing said.

"Sport is always a catalyst for things in a positive way," North Korea Olympic secretary general Ryu Son Il said.

Group B features the tightest first-round matchup with

Germany the slight favourite over Brazil with Mexico and Italy rounding out the group.

Brazil's women feel the pressure to match the success of their men.

"Like the men, we have great players and have a good team and our country expects us to win. There is a lot of pressure on us to at least make the final," forward Delma Goncalves said.

Denmark forward Mikka Hansen, who lives in California but plays for a Copenhagen club, used dual citizenship to play for her parents' homeland before playing in the sellout crowd in the tournament opener.

"I can't imagine playing in front of 75,000 people, but I'm looking forward to it because I will fulfill this crazy dream to be in the World Cup and all the work I have done will be worth it," she said before the match.



AUSTRALIA v THE WORLD

U.N. and FIFA link up in pursuit of same goals

By Anthony Goodman

THE United Nations teamed up with soccer's world governing body FIFA on Friday in a partnership aimed at promoting peace and tolerance.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and FIFA president Sepp Blatter announced the partnership on the eve of the women's World Cup finals in the U.S., saying soccer would help publicise U.N. activities throughout the world.

The two world bodies said they would sponsor programmes to promote tolerance, health and social development, and that the United Nations flag would fly over all World Cup games.

Annan and Blatter held an outdoor news conference at the U.N. headquarters with the participation of legendary retired Brazilian soccer star Pele and women footballers Lauren Gregg of the United States and Nene of Brazil.

"I am very pleased to announce today the new partnership between the only truly global organisation, the United Nations, and the only truly global sport, football," Annan said.

"This is a great match-up. Between us, we have a global audience.

"It is high time that we joined forces to bring together our true mission to the benefit and the delight of the world's peoples," he added.

"Only football is as universal in scope and participation as the United Nations," said Annan, who will officially open the FIFA Women's World Cup on Saturday.

Annan, an avid soccer player in his youth and an ardent fan of the game, said that as U.N. secretary-general he "might be thought of as a captain of a team.

"More often, however, I feel like the goalie having to make last-second saves rather than seeing the team follow my lead," he ruefully added.

Blatter said the link-up between FIFA and the United Nations would benefit the youth of the world, since out of over 300 million footballers, 80 percent were youth players and 40 million were girls and women.

"Football does not stop in front of barriers which could be built up by racism, by religion, by gender, by intolerance.

Football is for everybody," he said.

Pele called the occasion the "1,284th goal in my life," since the "two biggest families in the world" were getting together to work for peace and a better life for young people.



Women's game gets physical

By Randal Charlton

FROM time to time things are going to get ugly in the Women's World Cup.

Players will be sent flying to the turf, crunching tackles will lay out the opposition and some players will be shown the red card by the officials in charge.

A red card of course means the player concerned is dismissed from the game.

Women's soccer may be a lot less physical than the men's game but there seems a real possibility that incidents of rough play will occur.

In the recent series of so called friendly warm up games several finalists have shown a physical commitment that makes clear that, in the heat of battle, they are not that interested in taking prisoners.

The game between Nigeria and China was the latest in a series of very physical friendlies.

That game was exciting but contained a good deal of tough tackling as African Champions Nigeria upset fancied China 4-3 in Los Angeles.

For the first time in a World Cup tournament an all-women panel of the referees and referees assistants have been

appointed to take charge of the 32 game finals.

The ladies with the whistles will need to take firm control from the beginning.

Earlier this year Italy ended up with only 8 players on the field in a bitterly contested game against Australia.

The Australians were themselves subjected to three very tough games against North Korea.

Last month Brazil's Raquel was sent off in a hard fought ninety minutes against the USA and after the final whistle the remaining Brazilian players had to be restrained by their own coaching staff from arguing with the game officials.

In other games numerous yellow card cautions have been issued for over enthusiastic tackling.

Near the end of a game between China and USA at New York's Giant Stadium America's Michelle Akers was cut down unceremoniously as she raced into the Chinese penalty box.

Akers lay motionless for several minutes as the other US players gathered round in concern and then looked to the referee for justice.

On this occasion the Chinese player earned no

more than a yellow card caution and an off balance US team conceded a last minute goal to lose the game 2-1.

In part the increasingly physical nature of top class women's soccer may be due to the practice of playing warm-up games against men's teams.

Before China left for the USA they finished off their World Cup preparations in Beijing with two games against men's youth teams.

Nigeria and Australia have also tried to toughen up their squads against male competition.

Supporters of Ghana are openly worried at the tendency of their central defenders to become over physical.

"It could be disastrous to lose one of our starters," said a member of the Ghanaian camp. "Any player shown the red card automatically misses the next game and our reserves are not as strong as we might like."

One thing is certain. The women players in the World Cup cannot expect any leniency from the women referees.

All the officials were selected from FIFA's elite register and are very experienced.

They include the likes of Sonia Denoncourt, a Canadian has taken charge of top men and women's games all over the world.

She was a referee at the 1991 Women's World Cup in China and took one of the lines at the 1996 Olympic Final.

Earlier this year Ms Denoncourt became the first woman to referee a first division men's game in Brazil.

The occasion prompted Brazilian television stations to ask the viewers to phone in their verdict on the performance of the lady with the whistle.

Ms Denoncourt did as well as any man and didn't miss much, said the Brazilian fans, who are noted for being very well informed and critical of any sub par performance.

Certainly Ms Denoncourt and her colleagues will attempt to establish firm control earlier on to avoid rough play and minimise the risk of injuries.

Each team is limited to a squad of 20 players and in a press conference today USA's coach Tony DiCicco noted that any side, not just the Ghanaians, could be seriously affected if they lost one or more of their starters.



AUSTRALIA v THE WORLD

THE largest crowd ever for a women's soccer match helped kick off the 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup at Giants Stadium on Saturday.

A crowd of more than 78,000 packed the stands for opening ceremonies and a double-header featuring the home team that began the 16-nation, 32-match third women's finals, which concludes July 10 at Pasadena's Rose Bowl.

It may have paled in comparison to the extravagance seen at Stade de France last summer, but for the swamplands of New Jersey there was still crowd-pleasing spectacle and a festival atmosphere on a perfect late spring day.

The Giants Stadium pitch was shrouded in the flags of the participating nations and the upper tiers had giant soccer balls floating skyward on 25-meter tethers as a colourful opening ceremony featured music from N' Sync and British pop star Billie Paul Piper.

FIFA President Joseph Blatter and United Nations General-Secretary Kofi Annan greeted both teams before the opening kickoff between the United States and Denmark.

Following the opening match, Brazil took on Mexico, while two more matches were set for opening day in San Jose, California.

The enthusiastic crowd that watched the host nation blank Denmark 3-0 was listed at 78,972, exceeding the previous record of 76,489 in attendance for the women's gold medal match between the

United States and China at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Athens, Georgia.

"This is unbelievable and I'm so proud of everyone involved," gushed U.S. star Mia Hamm, the world's all-time leading goal scorer, after the victory.

"This is something you dream about. This crowd was absolutely unbelievable."

Only a visit by Pope John Paul II in 1995 attracted a larger crowd to the football stadium.

Hamm extended her own world record with her 110th career international goal.

In the day's second match, Brazil crushed Mexico 7-1.

In a twin bill in San Jose, California, title contenders China rallied for a 2-1 Group D win over Sweden, while Canada and Japan played to a 1-1 draw in the Group C opener.

Hamm scored a brilliant goal in the 17th minute, beating goalkeeper Dorthe Larsen from 10 meters after Brandi Chastain set her up with a long ball.

Hamm later set up Julie Foudy's six-meter shot in the 73rd minute before leaving with leg cramps in the 88th minute. One minute later, Kristine Lilly closed out the scoring.

"Mia was awesome," said U.S. coach Tony DiCicco, whose team faces Nigeria in Chicago in its second Group A match Thursday.

"It's just the beginning. We can't get too overjoyed yet."

The U.S., favoured to win the championship, needed to shake off some opening day nerves before taking control.

"The first half was a little rough. We had a lot of jitters on the field," Hamm said.

"In the second half, we started playing our style, starting possessing the ball."

In a confrontation of two of the top goalkeepers in the world, China's Gao Hong surprisingly allowed a long shot by Sweden's Kristin Brentsson to get past her in just the second minute of play.

But Jin Yan converted a corner kick in the 17th minute to equalise and Liu Ailing took the ball off the foot of a Swedish defender in front of the net and beat Ulrika Karlsson to break the tie in the 69th minute and give China a hard-fought win.

In the second game in San Jose, Nami Otake knocked in a rebound of a shot that deflected off the crossbar for the equaliser in the 64th minute as underdog Japan surprised Canada by playing them even.

Silvana Burtini had put Canada in front in the 32nd minute.

In Brazil's Group B rout, Pretinha and Sissi each recorded hat tricks.

Pretinha started and ended the scoring for Brazil with goals in the 3rd, 12th and 90th minutes.

Sissi tallied in the 29th, 42nd and 50th minutes.

Katia Da Silva converted a penalty kick in the 35th minute for the other Brazil goal.

Maribel Dominguez scored Mexico's lone goal in the 10th minute.

"We were a little nervous. We will improve in our next game," promised Brazil's coach Wilson.

Record crowd for Women's World Cup opening



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Women's World Cup result board

June 19

Double Header At East Rutherford, New Jersey

United States 3 Denmark 0

Scorers: Mia Hamm (17th minute), Julie Foudy (73rd), Kristine Lilly (89th)

Brazil 7 Mexico 1

Scorers: Brazil - Pretinha (3rd, 12th, 90th), Sissi (29th, 42nd, 50th), Katia da Silva (35th)

Mexico - Maribel Dominguez (10th)

Attendance: 78,972

Double Header At San Jose, California

China 2 Sweden 1

Scorers: Sweden - Kristin Bengtsson (2nd)

China - Jin Yan (17th), Liu Ailing (69th)

Japan 1 Canada 1

Scorers: Canada - Silvana Burtini (32nd)

Japan - Nami Otake (64th)

Attendance: 23,289

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP 1999



Left: Brazilians Pretinha and Sissi celebrate scoring
Bottom: the opening ceremony in front of a world record crowd attendance at any women's football match
Right: Scoring sensation Mia Hamm celebrates after scoring the opening goal of the World Cup for the United States. They beat Denmark 3-0 in the first match and are clear favourites to win the tournament.



Penpix of Manchester United squad RED DEVILS BOUND FOR AUSTRALIA

MANCHESTER United play two games in Australia next month having just completed an historic treble by winning the English FA Cup and Premier league as well as the European Cup in one season. The Red Devils will play in Sydney and Melbourne.

Goalkeepers:
Mark Bonsich
Recently signed from Aston Villa.

Raimond van der Gouw, 36.
Perennial reserve who usually impresses on his infrequent outings for United. Has made eight appearances this season, including one as substitute.

Defenders:
Ronnie Johnsen, 29.
Norwegian defender who has adapted well to English soccer since joining from Turkish League club Besiktas two seasons ago. Missed 16 matches because of injury earlier in the season.

Gary Neville, 24.
Made his England debut aged 20, is Philip Neville's older brother, and an automatic first choice in the starting lineup. Fast, level-headed intelligent defender who has played in three Cup Finals after playing against Everton in 1995

and coming on as a substitute against Liverpool in 1996. Widely tipped as a future England captain.

Philip Neville, 22.
Looking for his second Cup winners' medal after playing in the 1996 final against Liverpool, he has frequently been used as a substitute lately and may have to be content with a starting place on the bench.

Like his older brother Gary an outstanding defender and an England international.

David May, 28.
Has forced his way back into the team in the last month after missing almost the whole season through injury. Has hinted he wants to leave United to secure regular first team soccer elsewhere, he is also looking for a second Cup winners' medal after playing against Liverpool in 1996.

Jaap Stam, 26.

Tall, commanding Dutch centre-half who has totally justified his 10.6 million pounds (\$17 million) transfer fee after making a shaky start at United after moving from PSV Eindhoven last summer.

A troublesome Achilles heel injury bothered him this season.

Wes Brown, 19.
Won his first England cap against Hungary on April 28 after having played only 12 full matches for United. A teenager with great potential for a long and glittering career, likely to be on the bench at best on Saturday.

Midfielders:
David Beckham, 23.
Has had a superb season after suffering widespread abuse from rival fans following his sending off in the World Cup against Argentina last year. His accurate crosses from the wings have created many goals for team mates Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke and he was unlucky to miss out on the Footballer of the Year award. Married to pop star Victoria Adams, otherwise known as Posh Spice, the couple have just had a



baby boy called Brooklyn.

Roy Keane, 27.
Spent time recently in police custody after celebrations following United's premier league triumph took a turn for the worse. Suspended from the European Cup Final against Bayern Munich. United's inspirational skipper who played in his fourth F.A. Cup Final in six years.

Nicky Butt, 24.
Along with the Neville brothers, Beckham, Paul Scholes and Ryan Giggs, he is a product of United's youth system. Hard-working and inventive player who was also in United's Cup Final teams in 1995 and 1996.

Paul Scholes, 24.
Can be described as either an attacking midfielder or deep-lying attacker. Scholes made headlines with a hat-trick for England against Poland on March 27, and has now appeared in his third F.A. Cup Final after coming on as a substitute in both 1995 and 1996. Vital cog in United's attacking strategy either starting the game or replacing tired legs in the later stages.

Jesper Blomqvist, 24.
Left-sided Swedish international who joined United from AC Milan for 4.4 million pounds (\$7 million) after the World cup finals. Has made an important contribution for United this season -- helping the side maintain balance and shape in tandem with Ryan Giggs -- and in his absence.

Forwards:
Andy Cole, 27.
Joined United for a then-British transfer record of 7.0 million pounds (\$11 million) from Newcastle United in January 1995 and after a long period of indifferent form, is now playing superbly.

Has scored 24 cup and league goals this season including the winner against Tottenham Hotspur which secured United's fifth title success in seven years.

Ryan Giggs, 25.
Scored England's goal of the season -- and arguably of the decade -- to give United a 2-1 win over Arsenal in the Cup semifinal replay on April 14.

Having an excellent season, although injuries, typically, have curtailed his appearances. Like Schmeichel and Keane, he is the third United player who played in his Cup Final in six seasons.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, 26.

Is United's third highest scorer this season with 16 goals despite spending much of the season under-studying Cole and Yorke. Now reported to want talks with manager Alex Ferguson over his future. Lethal finisher who struck four times in 11 minutes when United beat Nottingham Forest 8-1 in February.

Dwight Yorke, 27.
After a decade at Aston Villa, he joined Manchester United for a club record fee of 12.6 million pounds (\$20.31 million) six days after the start of the season -- and then set about finding the net with alarming regularity. Has scored 28 goals to lead United to the verge of three major honours. Has a superb understanding with Cole.

Teddy Sheringham, 33.
Capped a stop-start season with a Cup Winners medal after featuring more regularly in Alex Ferguson's starting line-ups. Former England regular, Sheringham may no longer be at his peak, but his intelligent passing and movement still make him a powerful weapon in United's attacking armoury.

Hodgson Socceroo deal unlikely

By Paul Millar

ENGLISHMAN Roy Hodgson is unlikely to lead Australia in its next soccer World Cup campaign after demanding that he also be made the Olympic team



coach.

Hodgson, who coached the World XI against the Socceroos at the opening of the Olympic stadium on Saturday, is interested in the national coaching job, but only on his terms.

The former Inter Milan and Blackburn Rovers coach has returned to Europe to consider his options and says he won't wait forever for a firm offer from Soccer Australia.

"I would only come if I was in charge of the Olympic team," Hodgson told SBS television.

"Otherwise there is no point in coming for a year when there are no national team games and no World Cup to prepare for."

While he had other offers, Hodgson said the Australian job was his first pick as there was real potential here.

"But I can't and obviously I won't hang on forever and if it's going to take longer than I think is necessary then I would go somewhere else," he warned.

Caretaker national coach Raul Blanco is the current Olympic team coach and with the Olympics just over a year away SA doesn't want to dump the man who has been busy moulding the Olyroos for the Games.

SA had hoped to seal a deal while Hodgson was in Australia coaching the All-Stars team last week but they could not come to terms.

SA chairman Basil Scarsella admitted talks with Hodgson on Sunday failed to bring a deal any closer.

"We continued talks which were constructive and both parties have gone away to see what can be resolved," Scarsella said.

"There are a whole lot of issues that need to be looked at and the Olympic job was only one of them."

Hodgson said SA had set down its conditions - he is believed to be asking for an after tax contract of \$500,000 - and it was now a case of trying to determine whether there was common ground.

He said SA wanted him to take charge immediately and if he did, insisted it would be as the Olympic coach.

He believed he needed to take charge of the Olyroos as they would provide the backbone for any World Cup campaign.

While the Olympic job is an obvious stumbling block the finances are also a concern with Scarsella saying SA would only appoint a coach it could afford.

Hodgson said there was much talent in Australian soccer and he was keen to be a part of developing the game here.

If he did get the job he would reside in Australia, unlike the last coach Terry Venables who was labelled the visiting professor.



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Champions struggle to qualify for Euro 2000 but new book charts the glory times

By Rex Gowar

IT SEEMS fitting that world champions France should be going through a spell of self doubt at the very time that their ex-national coach Aime Jacquet publishes his memoirs "My Life for a Star".

For it was on the ashes of France's failure to qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals, which Jacquet describes as being of "seismic proportions", that the former miner forged their successful campaign to win soccer's biggest prize in 1998.

The process saw Eric Cantona first head France's revival on the field but later fall by the wayside as the duo of Zinedine Zidane and Youri Djorkaeff came to the fore.

The book's publication coincided with the weekend anniversary of the start of France's path to the trophy, their opening group match against South Africa in Marseille.

That part of Jacquet's story is well known, particularly the outcome a month later at the Stade de France with a conclusive 3-0 victory over Brazil in the final.

The book has come out as the French side, now coached by Jacquet's World Cup

take no risks.

But before he could get there "the Bulgarian counter-attack was under way and the ball ended its course in the back of (Bernard) Lama's net."

"I didn't see anything, understand anything," Jacquet said without mentioning David Ginola, held responsible for losing possession with a wayward crossfield ball exploited in deadly fashion by Emil Kostadinov.

"All I know is that the silence of a cathedral fell over the Parc des Princes and I held my head in both hands, stunned, rooted to the spot, destroyed."

"It was by a long way the hardest, most cruel, most unreal night I've ever experienced in football," Jacquet writes.

"But this scar, which nothing will efface, fed in me a cold anger, like a dumb and deaf violence which would guide, in its intransigence, many of my decisions... until a certain 12 July 1998."

Jacquet, who took the job some weeks after Houllier's resignation, had to pick the team up off the ground and rebuild.

One of the key figures in the early stages of his tenure was Cantona.

"Eric Cantona's intense pride, some-times excessive, is one of his motors. I felt in him, more than anyone else, a fierce will to efface the American elimination."

number two Roger Lemerre, find themselves struggling to reach the finals of the 2000 European championship.

France lost 3-2 at home to Russia two weeks ago and just scraped a 1-0 away victory over tiny Andorra after that.

The less well known part of Jacquet's story is how he came to succeed Gerard Houllier in the wake of France's disastrous defeat by Bulgaria at the Parc des Princes in November 1993 and set out to revive a sick animal.

Jacquet, who was Houllier's number two, describes the moment when France lost out on going to the World Cup finals in the United States by conceding a goal to the Bulgarians in the final minute of a match they only needed to draw.

Houllier sent Jacquet to tell the players from the pitch side that with the score 1-1 the job was done and they should keep possession and

"His intense pride, some-times excessive, is one of Eric's motors," Jacquet writes: "I felt in him, more than anyone else, a fierce will to efface the American elimination."

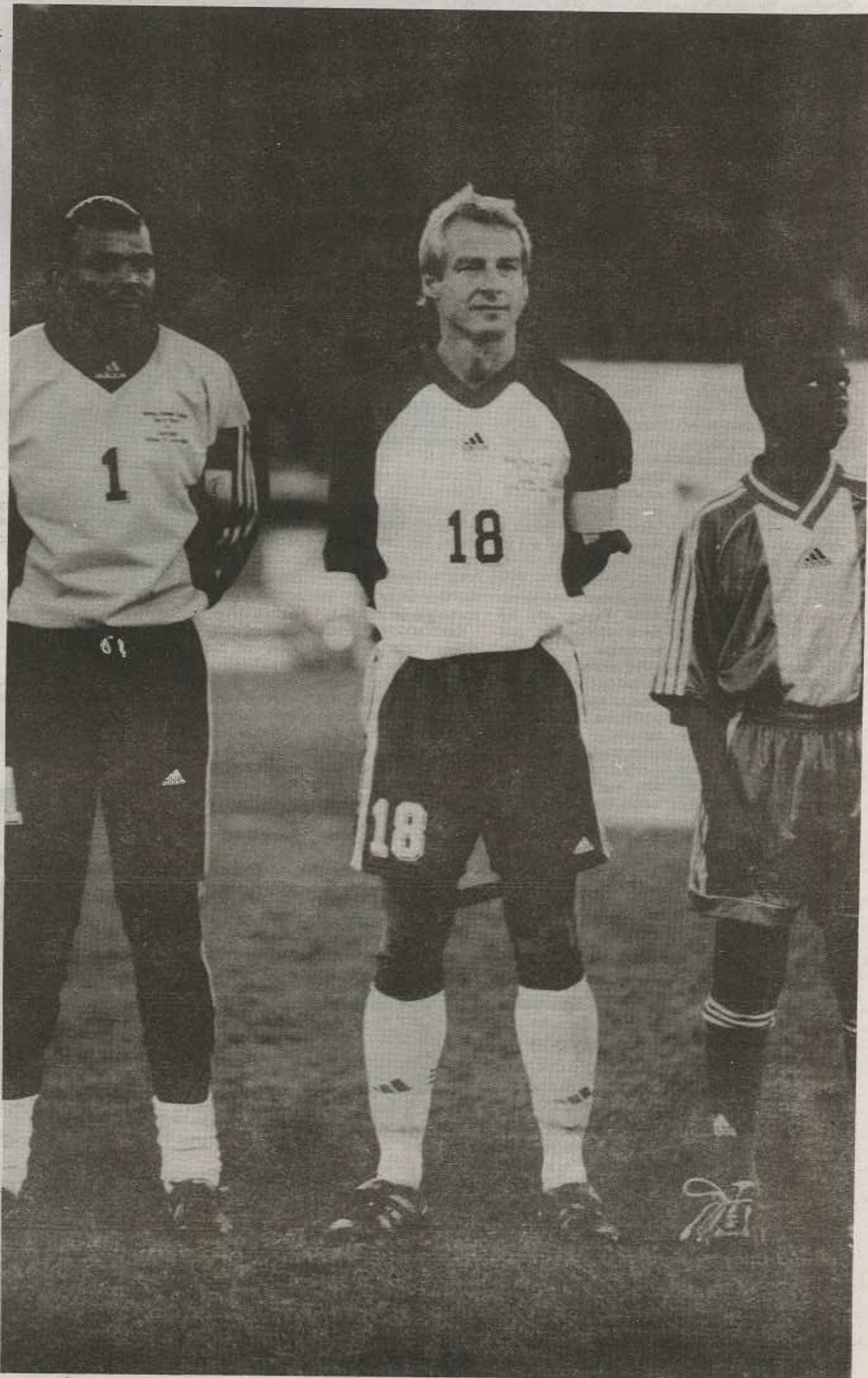
Jacquet's France started with a 1-0 win over Italy in Naples in February 1994 and built a run of 30 matches without defeat until they lost 1-0 away to Denmark after the Euro 96 finals.

His full record in four and a half years in charge was played 53, won 34, drew 16, lost three.

Jacquet says he admires the courage and dignity with which Cantona accepted his international career was over when told in January 1996 ahead of the Euro 96 finals.

But he adds: "All his team mates became conscious that they would need to assume more responsibilities... because it was now evident they were going to have to write history alone, without Eric Cantona."

Jacquet tells of French rise from the ashes



Bernard Lama takes his place before the start of the Australia v FIFA World Stars match at Stadium Australia. Lama was outstanding in the first half. But former French World Cup winning coach Aime Jacquet recalls the goal scored against France in the '94 qualifiers which saw them eliminated and led directly to his appointment, an appointment which led France on a dizzy run of success and the 1998 World Cup.

Bonnyrigg clinch Lambert thriller

By Patrick Galloway

LAMBERT Park was the venue last Sunday afternoon where Leichhardt's charge to the finals was dealt a severe blow in what turned out to be a thrilling game of football between two sides desperate for a win.

Bonnyrigg ended up taking the match 4-3, fending off a courageous second half fight-back by the Tigers to keep their hopes of a minor premiership alive.

Sitting on 32 points and in equal sixth position, Leichhardt were in search of the three home points in order to maintain 5th position in what will be a chaotic final two rounds in the NSW Super League.

However, things didn't pan out for the Tigers who, at the completion of this round, find themselves in outright seventh position.

The match began at a hectic pace with neither side sitting back for their opposition.

No less than two goals enlightened the Leichhardt crowd in the opening sixteen minutes.

Firstly for Bonnyrigg, where Wollongong signing Ray Younis proved himself an apt replacement for the injured Colin Luff in putting the White Eagles ahead.

However, Leichhardt weren't discouraged and soon found the net thanks to Eric Hristodoulou, who is enjoying his time in the midfield after a stint earlier on in the year at sweeper.

With the scores locked

at 1-1, Leichhardt's enthusiasm was outclassed by a finely tuned Bonnyrigg outfit who made a habit of getting to the ball first, especially through the likes of Robbie Gomez up front, who was causing all kinds of trouble for the normally very stable Leichhardt defence.

In fact it was Robbie Gomez himself who provided the ball for Bonnyrigg's second goal.

In the 37th minute an out-swinging corner from Gomez found the head of Borislav Dragas, who out-jumped his marker to head the ball to the right of a diving Frank Mikuletic into the Leichhardt net, much to the disappointment of the home crowd.

Things didn't improve for Leichhardt, after Tom Bazdaric brought down Paul Richardson just outside the area just before the half time whistle in the 44th minute of the match.

Gomez and Richardson stood over the ball and to Leichhardt's surprise, Richardson fired the ball past Mikuletic to take the White Eagles into the break with a two goal advantage.

The second half began as the first left off, with Bonnyrigg dominating possession and opportunities.

However, slowly but surely, Leichhardt clawed their way back into the match, beginning with an opportunist goal in the 57th minute when a Bounavoglia run saw him lose possession of the ball to Bonnyrigg defender Borislav Dragas

on the opposition goal line.

Bounavoglia pressured Dragas despite having lost the ball.

Dragas then hastily played the ball along the goal line to keeper Mladen Kos, thinking that the ball had gone over the line.

Kos picked up the ball and the referee correctly awarded an indirect free kick to Leichhardt.

Whilst the Bonnyrigg defenders were still reacting to the referee's decision, Bounavoglia cleverly laid the ball in front of Hasan Kdouh, who had an easy tap in to put the Tigers back within one.

The trend continued in the 64th minute, when a goal mouth scramble after the ball was floated in wide from the right by Hristodoulou saw Karavataki skilfully trap the ball and entice Mladen Kos to come out of his goal.

Karavataki then cleverly chipped the keeper just three metres from the goal line to bring the scores level for the first time since the opening to the match.

Karavataki's celebrations were less than sportsman-like in front of the Bonnyrigg supporters - something that the talented striker may need to have a look at in the future.

The scores remained at 3-3 up until the 84th minute, when for the second time in the match, a Robbie Gomez corner lead to a goal.

This time it was Joseph Bruni who put the ball past Mikuletic after a



timely near post run.

The table now makes interesting reading with after some shuffling due to results over the weekend.

Parramatta now move to outright fourth position some two points clear of their nearest opponent with an excellent goal difference - one far above their challengers.

With two rounds to go the eight that were contesting for a finals berth has been lessened by one, with Canterbury - Marrickville going down to Ryde City 1-0.

Canterbury - Marrickville now sit in eighth position - theoretically they can make it but it seems less than likely, particularly with the inconsistent form they have shown throughout the season.

AND Super League started in sensational fashion on Saturday night, when the Central Coast defeated the Fairfield Bulls 1-0 in front of a large Plum Park crowd.

The Coasties went into the game on the bottom of the table, and Fairfield had just come off a 3-2 win at Macarthur, but a late goal to the home team's captain, Peter Preston, saw the home fans go home happy.

The win moved the Coasties off the bottom of the table, above both Eastern Suburbs and Sutherland going into Sunday's games, where leaders Blacktown suffered a shock 2-1 home reversal against the inconsistent Bankstown

City Lions.

The Lions deservedly took the lead after 21 minutes through Stewart Van Bentum, and then just eight minutes later

Sasho Dimovski fired home a great free kick to make it 2-0.

Blacktown had to wait until the 88th minute when a Jon Angelucci shot was deflected into the net, but despite coming close the Demons couldn't snatch a late equaliser.

Macarthur is third, and they had a much-needed victory over Eastern Suburbs after some poor recent results.

Their 2-1 win came

courtesy of goals from Jimmy Aschner and Eric Williams, although Mark Beldham had given the Wanderers a 26th minute lead. Parramatta is just one win away from securing a top five spot, after they scored a late goal to defeat the Sutherland Sharks 1-0.

Anthony Mittiga was the man who secured the three points for the Eagles, but at Wentworth Park it was the opposite for Canterbury Marr-

ickville, who went down by the same score-line to Ryde City.

Jason Lal snatched all three points for the Gunners, and for Canterbury it looks like they will need two wins out of two to snatch a top five spot.



NSW SOCCER FEDERATION SUPER LEAGUE

ROUND 21

Saturday 26th June

Eastern Suburbs v Sutherland Sharks
Seymour Shaw Field, 6:00pm

Sunday 27th June

Ryde City v Bonnyrigg White Eagles
Wentworth Park, 3:00pm

Bankstown City Lions v Leichhardt Tigers
Jensen Park, 3:00pm

Fairfield Bulls v Blacktown City Demons
Nineveh Field, 3:00pm

Parramatta Eagles v Central Coast
Melita Stadium, 3:00pm

Canterbury Marrickville v Macarthur Rams
Henson Park, 3:00pm

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AUSTRALIAN Matilda Alison Forman soars high to head at goal in a match last weekend against Ghana. Australia drew the World Cup opener 1-1 with a Julie Murray goal and now must defeat Sweden to have any chance of qualifying for the second stage.

EIGHT GOALS PROVIDE HIGHLIGHT AT CALWELL

by Anya Whitelaw

THE ACT Academy of Sport defeated Tuggeranong United 5-3 in a high scoring game at Calwell on Sunday, heavy conditions preventing even more goals.

The major tussles of the game where fought out in the midfield, both teams worked hard to gain the vital possessions.

This did bring on some hard crunching tackles, in one instance a Tuggeranong player getting her face stood on.

Scoring for the game was opened by Tuggeranong's Gwen David in the 20th minute, streaking past a somewhat flat ACTAS

defence to beat keeper Rachel Comber.

Claire Madden came up with the reply for ACTAS, slotting the ball past Tuggeranong kepper Laura Jennings who had ventured too far from her goal-line.

Kim Channing gave ACTAS a 2-1 lead going into half time, sending Jennings the wrong way to finish of a slick midfield move.

The goal of the day came from Madden two minutes into the second half, her shot from just over the halfway line sailing over Jennings' head.

Tuggeranong hit back within the next minute when Claire Conti sent a firmly struck shot in from outside

the box to take the score to 3-2.

Channing joined Madden on a two goal tally 11 minutes in, Jennings again leaving her line too early giving ACTAS an easy finish.

Katrina Staniforth scored ACTAS's fifth when she chipped the keeper following on-from a nice through-ball.

Tuggeranong pulled one more goal back through Sarah Cox, but were unable to catch ACTAS leaving the final score at 5-3.

The other matches in the round were very one sided affairs, Belconnen United defeating Weston Creek 5-0, City downing Burns-Brindabella by the same margin.

VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

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ILLAWARRA CREDIT UNION PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 11

Saturday 19 June

Kemblawarra v Cringila Lions
Albert Butler Memorial Park
Coniston Lions v Port Kembla
JJ Kelly Park

Northern United v Fernhill
Memorial Park, Corrimal
Bulli v Wollongong Olympic
Ball's Paddock, Bulli

Lyasghts v Wollongong White Eagles
Figtree Recreation Ground

Sunday 20 June

Shoalhaven City v Woonona
Ison Park, South Nowra

INSIDE SOCCER
Out Tuesday's - from
COAST TO COAST
Australia's weekly
soccer Bible

Jekyll and Hyde still take the points

GEOFF Howarth showed himself as a game breaker when he came on as a substitute with only half an hour to go and scored a hat-trick thus assuring a ten-man Canberra Olympic of a 6-2 victory over Queanbeyan City Lions at O'Connor Oval.

Not only did he score three, but Howarth also missed a penalty.

But up to that stage it was anyone's game with the scores level.

Olympic's Pino Seminara was the highlight of the first 15 minutes when he scored early to give his side the lead and then saved a shot on the line with his hand, only to be sent off.

Cosmos defender, Danny Burt took the penalty kick but skyed his shot to the dismay of the Queanbeyan fans.

City were also without their other Cosmos player, Nick Purdue, apparently owing to a bureaucratic bungle.

Marcello Fernandez made it two for Olympic before Queanbeyan staged a comeback.

Goran Veljanovski potted two to bring the scores level and make a real game of it.

The two teams traded blows for the fifteen minutes around half time with the play very even.

If anything Queanbeyan looked to be the better chance of the two teams to go on with it, especially with their man advantage.

Then on came Howarth.

Within a minute, he had restored Olympic's lead and not long after had secured his second and a little breathing space for his team.

Robbie Grande came in with the fifth goal for Olympic before they were awarded a penalty.

Howarth took the shot only to see Jovan Naumovski, in his comeback game, save.

But Howarth was not to be denied his hat-trick when a second penalty was awarded.

Again Howarth stepped up and his placement easily beat Naumovski.

Olympic coach Baz Giampaolo was not all too pleased with his team's performance, even with the win.

"We're a Jekyll and Hyde team. We need more consistency."

THE Capital City Suns emerged victors 1-0 over Monaro at Riverside Stadium in what has been described as

one of the best games this season involving Premier League Division I teams.

The mixture of pace and skills were blended well with both teams and this gave the spectators much to enjoy.

The solitary goal of the match came from Shane Lyons, but the leadup work of Ilija Prenzovski and Tony Lemezina performing one-twos was a sight to be seen.

Then the final volley from Lyons gave the Monaro keeper, Tony Guarino,

Their hopes weren't helped late in the game when Daryl North was sent off with ten minutes remaining for fouling Lemezina as he was heading towards goal.

Suns were also unfortunate on two occasions when they felt they had reasonable grounds for a penalty.

Both incidents involved the Monaro keeper and Lemezina.

Yet it was the solid backline with a man-of-the-match performance from Tai Tran that stopped any threatening

very well moulding into the team", Dojcinovski added.

CANBERRA Deakin have continued on their merry way moving closer to the top four when they defeated previous leaders Belconnen United 3-2 at Deakin Oval.

New signing Leo Langone, fresh from a rest from playing for the Cosmos, stamped himself on the match scoring one goal and setting up another.

Within the first 12 minutes, Deakin had the game by the scruff of the neck.

First Langone was brought down by Jason Dunn in the box.

Ben Deighan put away the penalty kick.

Then Anthony Barac put in the second only a few minutes afterwards.

Into the second period and substitute Matt Whyte gave Belconnen some hope when he pulled one back, but it took just over ten more minutes for Langoneto show some magic.

He took on and beat three players before using the outside of his right foot to send the ball into the top right corner.

With only a few minutes left on the clock, Ray Junna scored a second for Belconnen to set up what was to be a close finish.

Time ran out and Deakin had scored a solid victory.

Deakin coach Bernie Lustica said: "I can't praise my team enough - they have obviously got some potential."

"We played very well moving the ball well around the field."



Tony Lemezina: involved

absolutely no chance.

The Suns could have scored another when Lemezina chipped from 20m out only to see the keeper just get his fingertips to the ball and push it over the bar.

Monaro, although without striker Lazar Simeonov, tried very hard.

chances for Monaro.

Suns coach Bill Dojcinovski was understandably pleased with the result.

"We could have won by three or four goals."

"It was a team performance, but most importantly the youngsters in the team are coming through and playing

THE FUTURE

JUST A KICK AWAY

RAINBOW RANGE: AVAILABLE IN SEVEN DIFFERENT COLOURWAYS.

Lazzaris and Hader set the pace for Weston Creek

By Nick Guoth

Weston Creek Royals were too good for the depleted Burns Club when they won 5-1 at Woden Park on Sunday.

The result moves them to the top of the table at the half-way mark of the season after both Belconnen and Monaro faltered.

Burns without Gardiner Murray, Greg Lemin and Matt Melgaard fought hard throughout but the experience, heads-up play and just sheer finishing of Weston was what brought the Royals the win.

Weston relied on the understanding of the two Lazzari boys early in the game.

Martin was providing and Steve was scoring.

As early as the third minute, Martin sent a ball into the box for Steve to out-hustle his opponent and from a deflection take the ball around the keeper and score from a difficult angle.

Just under ten minutes in and Weston had doubled the scoreline.

A Dion Cannell cross to the far post was headed down by Steve Lazzari for Yoshi Sato to deflect past 16 year old Joachim Milson in goals.

Burns were relying on the breakaway and only four minutes later had themselves back in the game.

The ball was rolled to Scott Hayes and his shot was partially blocked.

Josh Turco was on hand for the crumbs and his blast rocketed into the roof of the net.

Another three minutes and Weston had regained their two goal lead.

Martin Lazzari in challenging for the ball sent it down towards the left-hand corner.

Peter Hader was first to the ball and sent a great cross for Steve Lazzari to rise high and head home.

The rest of the half was dominated by Weston but they could not add to the scoreline.

Solid goalkeeping from Milson robbed both Hader and Steve Lazzari from scoring, whilst when Milson was beaten, Brett McRitchie was on hand to save off the line.

The second half started as the first had finished.

Burns were relying on the break more often than not and looked dangerous at times, yet it was in the midfield that most of the action took place.

The success in the final third for the attackers was minimal, more often than not owing to wayward shots.

Twenty minutes into the second half and Steve Lazzari nearly had his hat-trick.

His low shot was only

the maze of defenders to find Scott Hayes.

He then switched play back with a pass to Daniel Park, but

league goal.

Weston's coach Jimmy Bland said "the result was never in doubt. It was difficult



Canbetta Burns Club coach Steve Bryant: happy with his team

partially stopped by Milson, but as it was trickling towards goal, Grahame Archer was first to the ball and cleared it away.

Less than fifteen minutes left and the Burns boys were starting to tire.

One or two were suffering from cramps and this gave Peter Hader a chance.

His run towards the box saw him beat one defender and his low shot easily went past Milson and into the bottom left corner to make it 4-1.

Burns tried hard and probably provided one of the best moves of the day.

Substitute Alan Strachan sent a pin-point ball through

unfortunately the shot did not give justice to the build-up as it went a foot or so wide.

Finally, with only a few minutes left on the clock, Josh Whittingham started and ended a move.

From a long free kick he won the ball near the half-wayline.

A charging run at the defence found him at the edge of the box and having drawn some defenders, he laid the ball off to Hader.

Hader's cross was meant for his striking partner, who was dying to finish his hat-trick, but Whittingham stuck a foot in first and deflected the ball home for his first senior

to motivate the players, but we did good enough to win the game.

"It was a credit to Burns though as they showed a lot of spirit and made it difficult for us, especially in the first half with the temerity of their tackles", Bland added.

He also singled out Peter Hader as being the best on the field for the day.

For Burns, Steve Bryant was not too unhappy with the team's performance.

"The boys have done alright today. They did not disgrace themselves. We're still learning and it will take time to get used to the pace of the game."

Juve make it six in a row

by Greg Welsh

GUNGAHLIN Juventus notched up their sixth consecutive win with a 2-0 victory over a committed University of Canberra side in their ACT Premier League clash at the University grounds on Sunday.

Despite dominating throughout in terms of possession and field position, the students could not breach the Juventus backline, and were made to pay for two soft goals in the first half.

The first of these came just six minutes into the game when Yosip Zamora's inswinging corner was flicked on at the near post, and eluded a number of University defenders before falling at the feet of Aidan Griffiths.

The Juventus midfielder made the most of the opportunity by



blasting the ball into the far corner of the net with a sweetly-timed effort.

University attempted to hit back immediately, and only Juventus goalkeeper Elias Oikarinen prevented strikes from Paul Panebianco and Dominic Bartone finding their target.

Juventus went further ahead five minutes from half-time due to another defensive lapse by University.

A through ball from George Cattanach looked too heavily weighted for the pursuing John Glass, but University defender Nick Behr, in attempting to shepherd the ball to safety, allowed the Juventus striker to nip in and poke the ball past keeper Chris Freeman.

University came out attacking once more after the break, but despite being camped in the Juventus half for most of the remainder, were unable to create quality chances for strikers Bartone and Simon Foxhill.

In fact Juventus almost went further ahead in the 70th minute during one of their rare attacking forays, when Glass played a deft one-two with Brad Smith and forged into the University penalty area.

However Freeman was quick off his line on this occasion, and courageously plucked the ball from Glass' bootlaces.

Juventus coach Billy Willox later admitted the game was a battle for his side.

"You can't play well all the time," he said. "We done enough. We just done what we had to do in the first-half and finished it off."

An obviously frustrated Rod Lynes was meanwhile left to rue his team's defensive blunders.

"Commitment-wise we were excellent," he said.

"We played for ninety minutes. We didn't have much luck in front of goal - things didn't go our way. We just shot ourselves in the foot."

SCOREBOARD

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RAM SPORTS

NSW SUPER LEAGUE

FIRST GRADE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Blacktown City	20	14	2	4	44	17	44
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	20	14	1	5	61	33	43
Macarthur Rams	20	12	1	7	35	24	37
Parramatta Eagles	20	11	2	7	41	22	35
Bankstown City Lions	20	11	1	8	40	30	34
Fairfield Bulls	20	10	4	6	39	32	34
Leichhardt Tigers	20	10	2	8	39	33	32
Canterbury Marrickville	20	9	4	7	30	3	2
Ryde City	20	5	4	11	25	34	19
Central Coast	20	3	4	13	15	44	13
Sutherland Sharks	20	3	3	14	17	52	12
Eastern Suburbs	20	3	2	15	24	57	11

NSW SUPER LEAGUE

UNDER 21	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Parramatta Eagles	20	14	3	3	43	22	45
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	20	13	1	6	49	27	40
Macarthur Rams	20	12	3	5	53	24	39
Fairfield Bulls	20	10	4	6	38	38	34
Blacktown City Demons	20	10	2	8	42	35	32
Ryde City	20	7	5	8	34	29	26
Central Coast	20	7	4	9	25	35	25
Eastern Suburbs	20	8	1	11	30	42	25
Canterbury Marrickville	20	6	4	10	25	34	22
Leichhardt Tigers	20	7	1	12	39	53	22
Bankstown City Lions	20	5	3	12	27	40	18
Sutherland Sharks	20	4	3	13	21	47	15

NSW SUPER LEAGUE

UNDER 18	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Blacktown City	20	15	3	2	40	16	48
Parramatta Eagles	20	15	1	4	68	17	46
Macarthur Rams	20	13	1	6	39	27	40
Canterbury	20	9	5	6	37	30	32
Leichhardt Tigers	20	9	5	6	25	19	32
Eastern Suburbs	20	9	3	8	34	32	30
Central Coast	20	8	3	9	29	33	27
Bankstown City Lions	20	8	1	11	31	41	25
Ryde City	20	5	6	9	19	27	21
Sutherland Sharks	20	5	3	12	20	38	18
Bonnyrigg White	20	2	5	13	13	37	11
Fairfield Bulls	20	2	4	14	14	52	10

NSW DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Manly Warringah	16	12	1	3	58	16	37
Stanmore Hawks	16	9	3	4	28	24	30
Penrith Panthers	16	8	3	5	29	16	27
St George Saints	15	8	3	4	25	15	27
Illawarra Lions	15	7	1	7	26	26	22
Hurstville City	16	7	1	8	29	32	22
Rockdale City Suns	15	6	2	7	30	27	20
Bathurst '75	15	5	5	5	19	22	20
AC United	16	5	4	7	26	36	19
Auburn United	16	6	0	10	26	38	18
Moorebank Sports	16	3	5	8	13	36	14
Dulwich Hill	16	2	4	10	17	38	10

SCHOOLS

SOCCKER RESULTS SCHOOLS
METROPOLITAN CC semi-f A: De La Salle Ashfield 2 bt Marist Kogarah 0, CBHS ewisham 3 bt La Salle Bankstown 0. B: Marist Kogarah 2 bt De La Salle Ashfield 0, Marcellin Randwick 1 bt CBHS Lewisham 0.
U-15: La Salle Bankstown 4 bt Marist Kogarah 3, CBHS Lewisham 1 bt Marist Pagewood 0.
U-13: CBHS Lewisham 1 bt Marist Kogarah 0, De La Salle Ashfield 3 bt Marist North Shore 1. ISA rd 1: St Patricks Coll 2 bt SCEGGS 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP: Rd 2: Smiths Hill 2 bt Corrimall 1, Keira 4 bt Wollongong 1, Lake Illawarra 3 bt Warrawong 2, Bowral 4 bt Mulwaree 2, Dapto 1 bt Kanahooka 0, Warilla 1 bt Bomaderry 0, Vincentia 1 bt Shoalhaven 0, Monaro 2 bt Moruya 2 (7-6 pen). Rd 3: Keira 2 bt Smiths Hill 1, Lake Illawarra 3 bt Bowral 1, Warilla 2 bt Dapto 1, Monaro 3 bt Vincentia 2.

BILL TURNER CUP: Rd 2: St Spyridon College 5 bt Trinity Grammar 2, St Edwards Gosford 1 bt Gosford 0, Gorokan 3 bt Narara Valley 1, Tumbi Umbi 5 bt Lisarow 0, Mater Dei 3 bt Terrigal 2, Queanbeyan 5 bt Mulwaree 0.
Rd 3: Marist Bros Pagewood 3 bt Kingsgrove 0, St Spyridon College 2 bt Randwick Boys 1, St Peters Maitland 9 bt Dungog 0, Lambton 4 bt Irrawang 1, St Edwards Gosford 3 bt Gorokan 2, Tumbi Umbi 3 bt Mater Dei 2, Delory 5 bt Broken Hill 0, Nowra 4 bt Keira 2, Figtree 4 bt St Josephs Albion Pk 3, Kadina 1 bt Trinity Lismore 0.

A.C.T.

Premier League Division 1:
1st U23 U19
Canberra Deakin v Belconnen United 3-2 2-4 1-2
Canberra Olympic v Queanbeyan City 6-2 11-0
4-1 Weston Creek Royals v Burns 5-1 7-1 7-1
Monaro v Capital City Suns 0-1 2-2 2-6
Uni of Canberra v Gungahlin Juventus 0-2 6-0 1-2
Premier League Division 2:
1st Grade: Belwest Foxes 5 ADEFA 1, Cooma 1 ANU 2, White Eagles 3 Sabres FC4, Tuggeranong Utd 1 O'Connor Knights 1
Res Grade: Belwest Foxes 6 ADEFA 0, Cooma 1 ANU 2, White Eagles 3 Sabres FC1, Tuggeranong Utd 1 O'Connor Knights 3
State League:
Division 1:
Canberra City 0 ANU 3, Burns 1 Belconnen 2, Ginninderra 5 Southern Spirit 0, Monaro 3 Valley Blues 0
Division 3:
Canberra City 2 Harmonie 5
Division 4:
Canberra City 2 Harmonie 3
Masters:
ANU 0 Uni of Canberra 7, Tuggeranong 7 Belwest 0
Youth: Tuggeranong 7 Belwest 0

NEW SOUTH WALES

SYDNEY AMATEUR LEAGUE
Rd 11 O-35:
Portugal Union of Vets 3 bt KBBS 1, Leichhardt 3 bt Kingsgrove Apollo 1, Dulwich Hill 3 bt Concord 0, Racing 4 bt Concordia 1.
Rd 9 All Age Div 1:
First grade:
Leichhardt 3 bt Enfield 0, Arncliffe 3 bt Strathfield 2, Sydney Uni 3 bt Melchester 2, Lansvale Zebras 3 bt Lansvale Utd 1.
Reserve grade:

Leichhardt 2 bt Enfield 1, Arncliffe 5 bt Strathfield 2, Melchester 2 bt Sydney Uni 1.
Div 2 first grade: Wanderers 2 bt Dobroyd 0, Ecuador 4 bt Mindless Utd 2, Racing 5 bt Roselands 0, Sydney Pharos 1 bt Eldorado 0.
Reserve grade:
Wanderers 3 bt Dobroyd 2, Racing 3 bt Roselands 2.

NSW FEDERATION:
SUPER LEAGUE:
FIRST GRADE:
Central Coast 1 (P Preston 85m) bt Fairfield Bulls 0, Bankstown City 2 (S Van Bentum 21m S Dimoski 29m) bt Blacktown City 1 (J Angelucci 88m), Bonnyrigg White Eagles 4 (R Younis 8m B Dragis 30m P Richardson 44m J Bruni 80m) bt Leichhardt Tigers 3 (E Hristodoulou 12m S Boudaher 55m S Karavakis 70m), Parramatta Eagles 1 (A Mittiga 86m) bt Sutherland Sharks 0, Macarthur Rams 2 (J Aschner 45m E Williams 54m) bt Eastern Suburbs 1 (M Beldham 26m), Ryde City 1 (J Lal 74m) bt Canterbury Marrickville 0.
UNDER 21:
Fairfield Bulls 3 bt Central Coast 0, Blacktown City 1 bt Bankstown City 0, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 9 bt Leichhardt Tigers 2, Parramatta Eagles 3 bt Sutherland Sharks 1, Macarthur Rams 8 bt Eastern Suburbs 1, Ryde City 1 drew Canterbury Marrickville 1.
UNDER 18:
Central Coast 0 drew Fairfield Bulls 0, Blacktown City 1 bt Bankstown City 0, Leichhardt Tigers 3 bt Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1, Parramatta Eagles 3 bt Sutherland Sharks 0, Eastern Suburbs 2 bt Macarthur Rams 1, Ryde City 3 bt Canterbury Marrickville 2.

DIVISION ONE:
FIRST GRADE:
Manly Warringah 4 (D Harding 10m, D Rosenthal 30/70m, D Barbalace 35m) bt Dulwich Hill 1 (I De Jesus 60m), St George 2 (T Preston 67m, S Janic 83m) bt Bathurst '75 1 (S Mutton 88m), Stanmore Hawks 2 (E Briscoe 18m pen P Kypros 83m) bt oorebank Sports 0, Auburn United 1 (T Omac 13m) bt Rockdale City Suns 0, Hurstville City 4 (T Pontidas 2/43m P Joannau 47/78m) bt AC United 3 (F Screpis 27m C Gibson 33m S Borg 35m), Penrith Panthers 2 (R Astone 15m R Casserly 57m) bt Illawarra Lions 1 (V Sobovski 85m).
UNDER 21:
Manly Warringah 2 bt Dulwich Hill 0, Bathurst '75 1 bt St George 0, Moorebank Sports 3 bt Stanmore Hawks 1, Rockdale City Suns 1 bt Auburn United 0, Hurstville City 0 drew AC United 0, Illawarra Lions 2 drew Penrith Panthers 2.
UNDER 18:
Manly Warringah 1 bt Dulwich Hill 0, St George 3 bt Bathurst '75 2, Penrith Panthers 4 bt Auburn United 0, Moorebank Sports 2 bt Stanmore Hawks 1, Rockdale City Suns 4 bt Auburn United 1, AC United 2 bt Hurstville City 1, Penrith Panthers 5 bt Illawarra Lions 1.

DIVISION TWO:
FIRST GRADE:
Hurstville ZSC 2 (E Bosnar 15/80m) bt Sydney University 1 (S Philips 90m), Greystanes 3 bt Hills United 1, Hajduk Wanderers 1 (M Worrell 83m) bt Sydney District 0, Mt Pritchard 2 (G Baldock 69m J Cossentino 85m) bt Belmore Hercules 1 (N Hall 80m), University of NSW 2 (N Koomichalus 4m M Emerson 68m) bt Mt Druitt Town 0, Arncliffe Scots 1 (R Todorovski 60m) bt Fraser Park 0.
UNDER 21:
Sydney University 3 bt Hurstville ZSC 1, Hills United 2 bt Greystanes 1, Belmore Hercules 1 drew Greystanes 1, Hajduk Wanderers 1 bt Sydney District 0, Mt Pritchard 6

bt Belmore Hercules 0, University of NSW 2 bt Mt Druitt Town 0, Fraser Park 4 bt Arncliffe Scots 1.
UNDER 18:
Hurstville ZSC 4 bt Sydney University 2, Hills United 3 bt Greystanes 0, Hajduk Wanderers 7 bt Sydney District 1, Mt Pritchard 4 bt Belmore Hercules 3, Mt Druitt Town 2 bt University of NSW 1, Arncliffe Scots 3 bt Fraser Park 0.

DIVISION THREE:
FIRST GRADE:
Parramatta City 2 bt Maroubra United 1, Trasandinos 3 bt Liverpool City 1, Western Sydney Lions 3 bt Prospect United 2, Colo Colo 4 bt Hakoah 3, White City 5 bt Gladesville United 1, Camden Tigers 4 bt The Wanderers 3.
SECOND GRADE:
Maroubra United 4 bt Parramatta City 1, Trasandinos 6 bt Liverpool City 1, Prospect United 1 bt Western Sydney Lions 0, Hakoah 3 bt Colo Colo 0, White City 2 bt Gladesville United 1, The Wanderers 3 bt Camden Tigers 2.

DIVISION FOUR:
FIRST GRADE:
Holy Cross College 2 bt Balmain 1, Marickville vs Auburn Star P/P, CSI Schofields 2 bt Hawkesbury City 0, United Eagles 2 drew Prairiewood United 2, Eastern Creek Pioneers



1 bt Granville Greenisland 0, Nepean District 2 bt Sydney Crescent Star 0, Springwood 4 bt White Valley 0.
SECOND GRADE:
Holy Cross College 3 bt Balmain 0, Marickville 7 bt Auburn Star 2, Prairiewood United 3 bt Hawkesbury City 0, Hawkesbury City 3 bt CSI Schofields 1, United Eagles 3 drew Prairiewood United 3, Granville Greenisland 1 bt Eastern Creek Pioneers 0, Nepean District 6 bt Sydney Crescent Star 0, Springwood 2 bt White Valley 0.

DIVISION FIVE:
FIRST GRADE:
UTS 3 bt Earlwood Hermes 1, Bossy 1 drew Kellyville Kolts 1, Sporting SCC 1 bt Liverpool Olympic 0, Kosciusko 2 drew AVA United 2, Sydney United Kings v. Macquarie Sports p/p, Sydney TUSC 4 bt Homenetmen 2.
SECOND GRADE:
UTS 3 bt Earlwood Hermes 0, Kellyville Kolts 2 bt Bossy 1, Liverpool Olympic 3 bt Sporting SCC 2, AVA United 4 bt Kosciusko 1, Sydney United Kings 8 bt Macquarie Sports 4, Sydney TUSC 2 bt Homenetmen 0.

WOMENS SUPER LEAGUE:
FIRST GRADE:
Sutherland Sharks 3 bt Shoalhaven Association 1, Marconi Fairfield 7 bt Gladesville Ravens 2, NNSW ITC/Academy 3 bt NSW Inst/Academy 2, Sydney United

v. Nepean Panthers p/p, UWS Macarthur Rams 2 bt Central Coast 1.
UNDER 21:
Sutherland Sharks 5 bt Shoalhaven Association 1, Marconi Fairfield 4 bt Gladesville Ravens 1, NNSW ITC/Academy 2 bt NSW Inst/Academy 1, Nepean Panthers 3 bt Sydney United 0, UWS Macarthur Rams 1 bt Central Coast 0.

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE:
FIRST GRADE:
Eastern Suburbs 10 bt Bankstown United 2, Wollongong Wolves 3 bt Roselands 1, Manly Warringah 1 bt St George Association 0, Bathurst City 3 bt Gladesville Hornsby Koalas 1.
UNDER 19:
Eastern Suburbs 4 bt Bankstown United 2, Roselands 1 bt Wollongong Wolves 0, Manly Warringah 3 bt St George Association 2, Bathurst City 3 bt Gladesville Hornsby Koalas 1.

SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE: **UNDER 13:**
Leichhardt Tigers 3 bt Southern Districts 0, Macarthur Rams 3 bt Gladesville Hornsby 1, Parramatta Eagles 0 drew Sydney United 0, Newcastle Breakers 3 bt Eastern Suburbs 1, Marconi Fairfield 3 bt Central Coast 1, Sutherland Sharks 2 bt Southern Branch 0, Sydney Olympic 4 bt Manly Warringah 0, Blacktown City 7 bt

bt Canterbury M'ville 3, Bankstown Association 3 bt Ryde City 0, Illawarra Lions 4 bt Canterbury Association 0, Stanmore Hawks 2 bt Blacktown Association 0, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 3 bt Penrith Panthers 1, Rockdale City Suns 1, St George 1 bt Rockdale City Suns 0, Hills United 3 bt Fairfield Bulls 0, St George 1 bt Illawarra Lions 0. **UNDER 15:** AC United 4 bt Canterbury M'ville 1, Ryde City 3 bt Bankstown Association 0, Illawarra Lions 2 bt Canterbury Association 1, Blacktown Association 6 bt Stanmore Hawks 0, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 3 bt Penrith Panthers 2, St George 4 bt Rockdale City Suns 0, Hills United 3 bt Fairfield Bulls 0, Rockdale City Suns 2 bt Fairfield Bulls 1, Illawarra Lions 2 bt St George 1. **UNDER 16:** Canterbury M'ville vs AC United W/O, Bankstown Association 4 bt Ryde City 0, Canterbury Association 2 bt Illawarra Lions 1, Stanmore Hawks 3 bt Blacktown Association 2, Penrith Panthers 2 bt Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1, Rockdale City Suns 2 bt St George 0, Hills United 2 bt Fairfield Bulls 0, Rock-

dale City Suns 1 bt Fairfield Bulls 0, Illawarra Lions 4 bt St George 2. **DIVISION TWO:** **UNDER 13:** Nepean Association 3 bt Mt Pritchard 1, Macquarie Sports 3 bt Granville Association 1, Camden Tigers 3 bt CSI Schofields 0, Hawkesbury City 1 bt Ku-Ring-Gai Association 0, Moorebank Sports 1 drew Hajduk Wanderers 1, Mt Druitt Town 5 bt Parramatta City 0, Parramatta City v. CSI Schofields. **UNDER 14:** Mt Pritchard 2 bt Nepean Association 1, Macquarie Sports 3 bt Granville Association 0, CSI Schofields 2 bt Camden Tigers 1, Ku-Ring-Gai Association 2 bt Hawkesbury City 1, Hajduk Wanderers 4 bt Moorebank Sports 0, Parramatta City 4 bt Mt Druitt Town 1, Parramatta City 3 bt CSI Schofields 2. **UNDER 16:** Mt Pritchard 0 drew Nepean Association 0, Granville Association 2 bt Macquarie Sports 1, Camden Tigers 4 bt CSI Schofields 1, Ku-Ring-Gai Association 2 bt Hawkesbury City 1, Hajduk Wanderers 6 bt Moorebank Sports 0, Mt Druitt Town 0 drew Parramatta City 0, Parramatta City 1 drew CSI Schofields 1.

CADET LEAGUE DIVISION ONE:
UNDER 11: Leichhardt Tigers 2 bt Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1, Marconi Fairfield 7 bt Parramatta City 0, Sydney United 3 bt Parramatta Eagles 0, Macarthur Rams 0 drew Eastern Suburbs 0, Canterbury M'ville 5 bt Ryde City 0. **UNDER 12:** Marconi Fairfield 6 bt Parramatta City 0, Sydney United 3 drew Parramatta Eagles 3, Macarthur Rams 3 bt Eastern Suburbs 1, Ryde City 1 bt Canterbury M'ville 0. **CADET LEAGUE DIVISION TWO:** **UNDER 11:** Hajduk Wanderers 0 drew Stanmore Hawks 0, Hawkesbury City 4 bt Moorebank Sports 0, Penrith Panthers 6 bt Mt Druitt Town 0, AC United 5 bt Hurstville City 0, Hills United 1 bt Mt Pritchard 0, Macquarie Sports 2 bt Illawarra Lions 1. **UNDER 12:** Stanmore Hawks 4 bt Hajduk Wanderers 1, Moorebank Sports 1 drew Hawkesbury City 1, Mt Druitt Town 0 drew Penrith Panthers 0, AC United 1 bt Hurstville City 0, Mt Pritchard 2 drew Hills United 2, Macquarie Sports 2 bt Illawarra Lions 1.

DIVISION ONE: **UNDER 13:** AC United 4

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NSW DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hajduk Wanderers	15	12	1	2	47	8	37
Fraser Park	15	12	0	3	45	13	36
Hurstville ZSC	15	10	1	4	40	18	31
Sydney University	15	9	2	4	35	23	29
Mt Druitt Town	15	8	2	5	32	24	26
Arncliffe Scots	15	6	6	3	31	20	24
Mt Pritchard	15	6	3	6	23	25	21
Greystanes	15	4	4	7	20	26	16
Belmore Hercules	15	3	2	10	16	41	11
Hills United	15	2	4	9	22	43	10
University Of NSW	15	2	3	10	15	42	9
Sydney District	15	0	4	11	8	51	4

NSW DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hakoah	14	9	3	2	48	18	30
White City	14	9	1	4	44	26	28
The Wanderers	14	9	1	4	45	31	28
Colo Colo	14	9	0	5	42	28	27
Western Sydney Lions	14	8	1	5	32	22	25
Camden Tigers	14	6	4	4	26	23	22
Liverpool City	14	6	2	6	24	43	20
Trasandinos	13	6	0	7	33	25	18
Parramatta City	14	5	1	8	29	32	16
Gladesville United	14	4	3	7	22	38	15
Prospect United	13	2	4	7	24	32	10
Maroubra United	14	0	0	14	13	64	0

NSW WOMENS SUPER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
NSWITC/ACADEMY	11	10	0	1	39	7	30
Marconi	12	9	1	2	49	17	28
NNSWITC	12	8	1	3	30	14	25
UWS Macarthur	12	8	1	3	19	14	25
Sutherland Sharks	12	6	2	4	15	15	20
Nepean Panthers	10	4	2	4	20	22	14
Central Coast	12	3	1	8	20	30	10
Gladesville Ravens	12	1	4	7	14	29	17
Shoalhaven Assoc	12	1	2	9	13	39	5
Sydney United	11	1	0	10	6	38	3

VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Pt. Melbourne Sharks	19	13	4	2	49	21	43
Green Gully Caval'Rs	19	11	6	2	40	18	39
Preston Lions	19	12	2	5	39	24	38
Fawkner Blues	19	9	3	7	30	26	30
Bentleigh Greens	19	8	5	6	43	25	29
Bulleen Inter Kings	18	7	5	6	25	23	26
Altona Magic	18	7	3	8	27	35	24
Altona East Phoenix	19	6	5	8	20	26	23
Melbourne Raiders	19	6	5	8	23	34	23
Spring. White Eagles	19	6	4	9	30	31	22
St. Albans Saints	18	6	2	10	21	28	20
Westvale	18	4	6	8	24	43	18
South Dandenong	19	4	5	10	30	44	17
Sunshine Georgies	19	3	3	13	19	42	12

VCITORIA

PREMIER LEAGUE: Firsts: Rd 19: Spring. White Eagles 1 Sunshine Georgies 0, Westvale Altona Magic, Bulleen Inter Kings St. Albans Saints, Bentleigh Greens 9 South Dandenong 0, Pt. Melbourne Sharks 5 Melbourne Raiders 0, Preston Lions 0 Green Gully Caval'Rs 2, Altona East Phoenix 3 Fawkner Blues 0

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 1: Firsts: Rd 14: Western Suburbs 1 Heidelberg United 1, Doncaster Rovers 3 Springvale City 0, Westgate 2 Northcote City 1, Werribee City 2 Melbourne City 0, Yarraville Glory 5 Lalor United 1, Richmond 2 Nth Geelong Warriors 2, Kingston City 0 Oakleigh 3

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 2: Firsts: Rd 14: Geelong 2 Croydon City Arrows 1, Frankston Strikers 3 Satellite City Rov'S 2, Altona City 1 East Richmond 0, Diamond Valley Utd 0 Essendon 0, Cranbourne Comets 0 Frankston Pines 1, Ringwood City 0 Thomastown / Regent 3, Old Scotch Waverley 0 Knox City 0

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 3: Firsts: Rd 14: Stonnington City 4 Moreland City 2, South Springvale 0 Laverton Park 0, Williamstown 0 Banyule City 0, South Wantima 0 North Coburg United 1, Keilor Park 0 Mooroolbark 1, Fitzroy City 3 Bell Park 1, Pascoe Vale 1 Broadmeadows

BLACKTOWN DSFA

U/9 Div.1. Doonside 0 Blk. Workers 0, Kings Langley 1 Riv/Schofields 0, Parklea 2 C.S.I. 0, Quakers Hill 4 Rooty Hill RSL 0. Div.2. Lourdes 2 Kings Langley 0, Good Shepherd 2 Prospect 1, Blk. St.Patrick's 5 Blk. Premiers 0, Parklea 0 Oakville 0. Div.3. Doonside 1 Lourdes 1, Rooty Hill RSL 5 Blk. Workers 0, Shalvey 1 Eastern Creek 0, Quakers Hill 4 Mt.Druitt Rangers 0. Div. 4. Good Shepherd 0 Prospect 0, Oakville 2 Kings Langley 0. Div. 5. Plumpton/Oakhurst 2 Parklea 0, Seven Hills 2 Riv/Schofields 1, Mt. Druitt Sports 5 Quakers Hill 0.

U/10- BDSFA Knock Out Final: Minchinbury 6 Oakville 0.
U/10 Div.1. Kings Langley 5 Doonside 1, Quakers Hill 4 Prospect 0, Parklea 6 Oakville 0. Div.2. Doonside 3 Minchinbury 1, Parklea 5 Lourdes 1, Blk. St.Patrick's 6 Seven Hills 2. Div.3. Kings Langley 1 Blk. Workers 1, Riv/Schofields 3 Plumpton/Oakhurst 1, Parklea 8 Quakers Hill 1. Div. 4. Marayong Sport 10 Doonside 1, Good Shepherd 5 Blk. St.Patrick's 0. Div. 5. Blk. Premiers 6 Plumpton/Oakhurst 0, Parklea A 1 Good Shepherd 0, Parklea B 2 Quakers Hill 0.

U/11 Div.1. Doonside 1 Kings Langley 0, Rooty Hill RSL 2 Prospect 0, Parklea 6 Blk. Premiers 0. Div.2. Plumpton/Oakhurst 4 Marayong Sport 0, Riv/Schofields 5 Rooty Hill RSL 0, Kings Langley 1 Mt.Druitt Rangers 1. Div.3. Lourdes 3 Blk. Workers 1, Parklea 1 Doonside 0, Good Shepherd 3 Rooty Hill RSL 0. Div. 4. Lourdes 3 Parklea 1, Kings Langley 2 Blk. St.Patrick's 0, Seven Hills 5 Blk. Workers 0, Quakers Hill 2 Prospect 0.

U/12 Div.1. Parklea 2 Prospect 0, Rooty Hill RSL 11 Plumpton/Oakhurst 0, Blk. St.Patrick's 1 Doonside 1. Div.2. Lourdes 2 Blk. Workers 0, Quakers Hill 6 Good Shepherd 0, Parklea 1 Kings Langley 1. Div.3. Blk. St.Patrick's 2 Doonside 1, Marayong Sport 5 Seven Hills 0, Blk. St.Patrick's 0 Eastern Creek 0, Plumpton/Oakhurst 4 Doonside 0. Div. 4. Quakers Hill 5 Prospect 0, Minchinbury 8 Rooty Hill RSL 1, Parklea 4 Oakville 2.

U/13 Div.1. Doonside 2 Riv/Schofields 1, Rooty Hill RSL 3 Parklea 1, Riv/Schofields 4 Blk. St. Patrick's 3, Doonside 4 Mt.Druitt Rangers 2. Div.2. Lourdes 6 Blk. Workers 0, Plumpton/Oakhurst 2 Parklea 1, Quakers Hill 3 Blk. Premiers 0. Div.3. Good Shepherd 3 Marayong Sport

City 2

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 4: Firsts: Rd 14: Lyndale United 4 Clifton Hill United 0, Seaford United 1 Sunbury United 1, Sandringham City 1 Croxton Park 1, Chelsea 3 Nunawading City 2, Melton 1 Langwarrin 2, Corio 1 Geelong Rangers 3, Lalor 1 Keysborough 11999

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 1: Firsts: Rd 11: Riversdale 2 Springvale Condors 0, Brunswick City 3 Endeavour United 2, Templestowe Eagles 2 South Caulfield 0, Nth Sunshine Eagles 0 Sydenham Park 4, Monbulk 0 Mitcham United 0, Dandenong 0 Morwell Pegasus 31999

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 2 NW: Firsts: Rd 11: Keon Park 1 Uni. Of Melbourne 2, Mill Park 1 South Yarra 1, Glenroy 5 Meadow Park 0, Broadmeadows United 0 Elwood City 3, Hoppers Crossing 4 Ballarat 0, Melbourne University 0 Somerton City 0

1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 2 SE: Firsts: Rd 11: Ashburton 2 Braeside United 3, Dandenong Inter 4 Noble Park 4, Brandon Park 0 Monash University 3, Newborough/Yallourn 1 Waverley Wanderers 1, Heatherton United 1 Dingley City 2, Clayton 0 Doveton 2

1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 3 NW: 0, Rooty Hill RSL 3 Mt.Druitt Sports 2, Marayong Sport 1 Prospect 1.

U/14 Div.1. Parklea 1 Riv/Schofields 1, Blk. St.Patrick's 4 Seven Hills 1, Quakers Hill 2 Riv/Schofields 2, Prospect 1 Rooty Hill RSL 0, Doonside 3 Parklea 1. Div.2. Kings Langley 3 Lourdes 1, Blk. Premiers 9 Mt.Druitt Sports 0. Div.3. Oakville 6 Good Shepherd 1, Parklea 1 Quakers Hill 0, Riv/Schofields WoF Good Shepherd LoF, Oakville 3 Rooty Hill RSL 1.

U/15 Div.1. Doonside 3 Blk. Workers 3, Plumpton/Oakhurst 1 Parklea 0, Blk. Workers 5 Rooty Hill RSL 2, Doonside 3 Good Shepherd 1. Div.2. Blk. St.Patrick's 4 Marayong Sport 0, Quakers Hill 2 Kings Langley 0. U/16 Div.2. Lourdes / Blk. St.Patrick's 10 Parklea 0, Good Shepherd 3 Doonside 0, Marayong Sport 3 Prospect 0..

U/17 Div.1. Blk. Workers 2 Rooty Hill RSL 1, Marayong Sport / Quakers Hill 1 Parklea 1, Parklea 2 Blk. St.Patrick's 2, Lourdes 2 Blk. Workers 0, Blk. St.Patrick's 3 Rooty Hill RSL 1, Parklea 1 Lourdes 1, Blk. Workers 2 Marayong Sport / Quakers Hill 1, Lourdes 1 Parklea 0, Blk. St.Patrick's 6 Rooty Hill RSL 0. All Age Premier Div.1. Pinar 9 Blk. St.Patrick's 0, Plumpton/Oakhurst 3 Seven Hills 0, Seven Hills 2 Quakers Hill 2, Marayong Sport 8 Blk. Workers 0. Premier Reserves. Blk. St.Patrick's 3 Pinar 2, Plumpton/Oakhurst 2 Seven Hills 1, Quakers Hill 5 Seven Hills 2, Marayong Sport 2 Blk. Workers 1.

All Age Div.1.1st Grade Parklea 1 Quakers Hill 0, Doonside 3 Rooty Hill RSL 1, Riv/Schofields 2 Doonside 1, Rooty Hill RSL 2 Quakers Hill 0, Eastern Creek 1 Quakers Hill 1, Doonside 7 Blk. Workers 1, Riv/Schofields 1 Blk. Pioneer 1, Rooty Hill RSL 3 Parklea 0. Div.1 Reserves. Quakers Hill 2 Parklea 0, Doonside 5 Rooty Hill RSL 0, Quakers Hill 5 Rooty Hill RSL 1, Eastern Creek 1 Quakers Hill 1, Doonside 4 Blk. Workers 1, Blk. Pioneer 5 Riv/Schofields 2, Rooty Hill RSL 2 Parklea 0.

All Age Div.2.1st Grade Lourdes 2 Blk. St. Patrick's 0, Seven Hills 2 Mt.Druitt Sports 2, Oakville 2 Blk. Workers 1, Blk. St.Patrick's 3 Parklea 0. Div.2 Reserves. Blk. St.Patrick's 5 Lourdes 1, Seven Hills 5 Mt.Druitt Sports 4, Marayong Sport 4 Oakville 0, Blk. St.Patrick's 3 Parklea 0.

Firsts: Rd 11: North Glenroy 1 Keilor United 0, Darebin United 0 La Trobe University 1, Brimbank 1 Brimbank City 1, Watsonia Heights 1 Northern United 2, West Preston 1 Flemington Falcons 2, North Reservoir 1 Whittlesea United 2

1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 3 SE: Firsts: Rd 11: Old Camberwell Gram 2 Thornbury United 3, Parkmore 2 Noble Park United 4, North Caulfield 4 Endeavour Hills 1, Collingwood City 3 Ivanhoe United 2, Rowville Eagles 2 Beaumaris 1, Moreland United 4 Newport United 1

WOMENS LEAGUE 18'S: Firsts: Rd 7: Ringwood City A Ringwood City B, Langwarrin 2 Brighton 6

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 1: Firsts: Rd

9: Newborough/Yallourn Knox County, Seaford United 2 Endeavour Hills 2, Yarraville Glory 1 Cranbourne B 3, Waverley Taipans 5 Ballarat Strikers 0,

WOMENS LEAGUE 16'S N/W: Firsts: Rd 8: Green Gully Ballarat City, Reservoir United 4 Eltham North 4, Brunswick Zebras 1 Fawkner Blues 1

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 3 NTH-WEST: Firsts: Rd 9: Melton 2 Melbourne Raiders 2, La Trobe University 1 Maribymong Utd 0, North Reservoir 7 Deakin University 0, Fairfield Falcons B Bye, Diamond Valley Utd Pascoe Vale

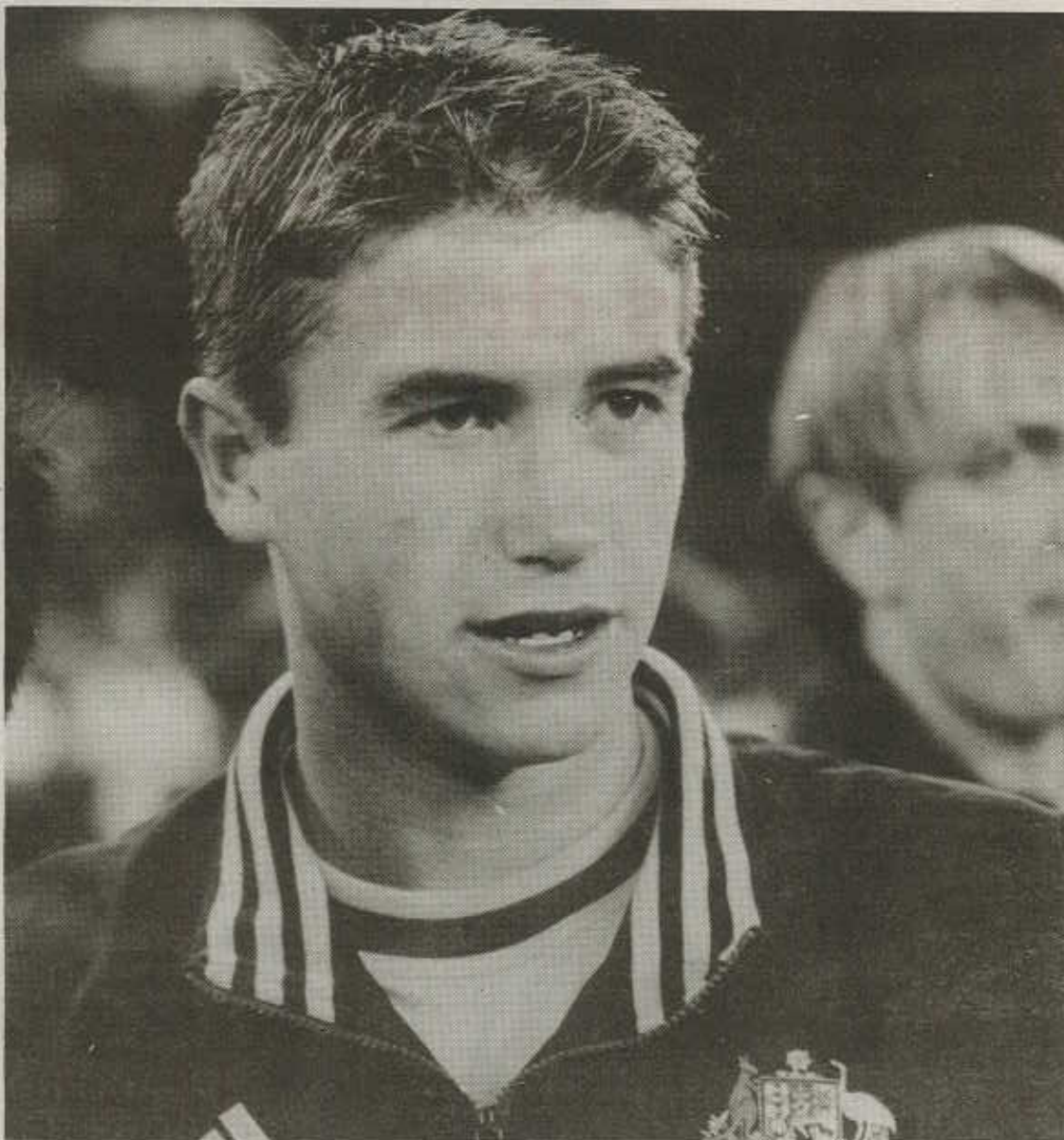
WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 2 NTH-WEST: Firsts: Rd 9: Calder Strikers 1 Fairfield Falcons A 1, Laverton Park Essendon B, Eltham North 0 Brunswick City 6, Mill

Park 1 Brimbank 5, Thornbury United Ballarat City

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 2 STH-EAST: Firsts: Rd 9: South Wantima 0 Monbulk 1, Springvale City 3 Monash University 0, Gippsland Falcons Bye, Bye Carringbush, Frankston Pines Bentleigh Greens 99

WOMENS EAT WELL LIVE WELL PREMIER DIV: Firsts: Rd 9: Manningham 1 Keilor Park 3, Heidelberg United Essendon A, South Melbourne 0 Cranbourne A 6, Westvale Bye, Bye Endeavour United

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 3 S/E: Firsts: Rd 6: Box Hill Inter 2 Monash Gryphon 2, East Bentleigh 0 Hampton Park 7, Crystal United Sandringham City, Melbourne University Bye



All Age Div.3.1st Grade Marayong Sport WoF Kings Langley / Blk. Premiers LoF, Eastern Creek 1 Kings Langley /06 1, Lourdes / Shalvey 4 Marayong Sport 1, Plumpton/Oakhurst 4 Quakers Hill 2, Good Shepherd 2 Minchinbury 1. Div.3 Reserves. Kings Langley / Blk. Premiers 4 Marayong Sport 4, Eastern Creek 3 Kings Langley / Blk. Premiers 2, Lourdes / Shalvey 3 Marayong Sport 1, Plumpton/

Oakhurst 2 Quakers Hill 1, Minchinbury 3 Good Shepherd 2.

U/17-18 Girls Div.1: Oakville 3 Quakers Hill / Marayong Sport 0, Rooty Hill RSL 5 Plumpton/Oakhurst B 2, Blk. Workers 1 Plumpton/Oakhurst A1
All Age Ladies Div.1. Doonside 5 C.S.I. 1, Marayong Sport 1 Mt.Druitt Sports 0, Blk.

Premiers WoF Doonside LoF, Blk. Pioneer / Oakville 2 C.S.I. 1.

All Age Ladies Div.2.03 5 Seven Hills 0, Parklea 1 Blk. St.Patrick's A 1, Blk. St.Patrick's B 5 Eastern Creek 0.
NSWASF State Cup Replay: All Age: Pinar 2 Lane Cove 0

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The Back Page

STOP PRESS

SOUTH Melbourne striker Michael Curcija scored two goals as Australia's Olympic soccer team thrashed Singapore's senior national side 5-0 on Sunday night.

Captain Brett Emerton opened the scoring in the 25th minute and was also instrumental in the second goal, his shot rebounding off the post with Kasey Wehrman on hand to make it 2-0 in the 40th minute. Curcija's first came in the 55th minute and Northern Spirit striker Clayton Zane latched onto a pass from Zeljko Susa two minutes later to make it 4-0. Curcija wrapped up it up eight minutes from time.

Emerton had the chance to snare a double but failed to convert a penalty shot after Jacob Burns was taken down inside the box a minute from time.

Coach Raul Blanco was pleased for the opportunity to play a senior side. "I was pleased with the team's performance as a whole, I felt we applied ourselves very well," he said, adding that local commentators were surprised by the quality of football and speed of the Olyroos.

"We played a standard of football which both pleased the crowd and at the same time gave us good preparation for the upcoming games against New Zealand."

The Olyroos leave on Tuesday (today) for Auckland and will play two games against the New Zealand Under 23 side on June 30 and July 3.

AUSTRALIAN UNDER-23s 5 (Emerton 25, Wehrman 40', Curcija 55' 82', Zane 57') d. SINGAPORE 0

Venue: Bishan Stadium, Singapore

Crowd: approx 6,000

AUSTRALIA: D Milosevic, J Burns, M Garcia (M Santalab 62'), C Blatsis, D Nastevski, S Laybutt (B Farah 75'), B Emerton, K Wehrman (N Sabljak 75'), M Curcija, Z Susa (G Goutzoulis 58'), C Zane (N Carle 58')

Olyroos thrash Singapore



Raul Blanco: pleased with his side in Singapore

ERITREA edged closer to a football fairytale just 50km from a bloody border war.

The tiny East African state defeated Mozambique 1-0 in the final African Nations Cup Group 1 fixture to record its first success since entering international football a year ago.

Success before a capacity crowd at the Asmara Stadium lifted Eritrea above Mozambique into second place and they will face Zimbabwe and Senegal during July and August for a place at the 2000 finals.

Yonas Fishaye scored the only goal after 80 minutes to become an instant hero in a country fighting an increasingly brutal war with southern neighbour Ethiopia.

Both countries claim to have killed and wounded thousands of enemy troops without revealing their own casualty figures since war erupted in May 1998 over disputed land.

Eritrea, which held 1984 and 1988 Nations Cup winner Cameroon goalless in a previous home match, hosts Zimbabwe on July 3 in the opening match of the playoffs.

Matildas draw opening match



AUSTRALIA drew its first match in the women's soccer World Cup 1-1 with Ghana despite a one-player advantage for much of the game near Boston.

The African champions had Barikisu Tettey-Quao sent off in the 26th minute for a tackle from behind on Australia's Joanne Peters.

The Matildas had a territorial advantage throughout and scored in the 74th minute through a fine solo effort from veteran Julie Murray but Ghana equalised two minutes later through Nana Gyamfua.

Australia must win its second Group D match against Sweden in Washington on Wednesday to have any chance of progressing.